Term 3 - 2025: Week 5 - Writing Homework | Year 5 Scholarship Specialisation

Section 1:

#1 (Opening scene and atmosphere building) **Strengths:** Your opening establishes a clear railway station setting with sensory details like "train exhaled steam" and "sound echoing through the station." The physical manifestation of Jack's nervousness through "fingers tapped a constant rhythm" and "toes started wiggling" effectively conveys anticipation without explicitly stating his emotional state.

Weakness: Technical accuracy and precision → Your writing contains numerous spelling and grammatical errors that impede readability. The phrase "its sound echoeing through the station, reflecting of the freshly painted walls" demonstrates issues with spelling ("echoing") and preposition usage ("reflecting off"), whilst "A bundle of flowers were clenched" shows subject-verb disagreement that disrupts sentence flow.

Exemplar: The train's sound echoed through the station, reflecting off the freshly painted walls, whilst a bundle of flowers was clenched between Jack's hands.

#2 (Recognition scene and initial dialogue exchange) Strengths: Your dialogue captures authentic familial interaction with appropriate intimacy levels. The physical descriptions of the reunion moment, particularly "Her lips smooched his cheeks" and "his heart enlightened with joy," demonstrate understanding of how physical affection communicates emotional connection between family members.

Weakness: Narrative perspective consistency → Your writing shifts unexpectedly from third person to first person perspective without clear justification. The transition from "he whispered" to "I reassured her" creates confusion about narrative voice that undermines reader engagement and demonstrates inconsistent technical control over point of view.

Exemplar: "I understand," Jack reassured her, maintaining consistent third-person perspective throughout.

#3 (Emotional revelation and thematic resolution) Strengths: Your exploration of grief's impact on family dynamics shows mature thematic understanding. Jack's acknowledgment that "I didn't bother to check in on you because I was too engaged in what I was doing" demonstrates realistic character psychology and genuine emotional accountability that strengthens the reunion's authenticity.

Weakness: Sentence structure sophistication → Many sentences lack the complexity expected for advanced writing. The concluding statement "Jack and his mum had finally reunited, and their hearts are now content" oversimplifies the emotional resolution and doesn't reflect the nuanced psychological journey you've established throughout the piece.

Exemplar: Through shared tears and honest conversation, Jack and his mother discovered that their reunion marked not just an ending to separation, but the beginning of renewed understanding.

■ Your piece demonstrates solid understanding of emotional storytelling with particular strength in depicting the complex grief dynamics following a family death. The railway station setting provides effective symbolic framework for reunion themes, whilst your dialogue captures authentic mother-son interaction patterns. Your characterisation shows genuine insight into how guilt and grief can create family distance, and Jack's mature self-reflection about his behaviour demonstrates sophisticated character development. However, your technical execution requires significant attention to spelling accuracy, grammatical consistency, and sentence structure variety. Focus particularly on maintaining consistent narrative perspective throughout—decide whether you're writing in first or third person and maintain that choice rigorously. Your vocabulary choices are generally appropriate, though some phrases like "heart enlightened with joy" could benefit from more precise expression. Additionally, strengthen your sentence structures by combining shorter statements into more complex constructions that demonstrate advanced writing capability. The emotional pacing works effectively, building from anticipation through surprise to reconciliation, though your conclusion could develop the thematic implications more thoroughly rather than simply stating resolution. Consider expanding the middle section to show more specific details about their conversation and mutual recognition process.

Score: 40/50

Section 2:

The heartfelt reunion [Heartfelt Reunion]

The train exhaled steam from its engine, its sound echocing [echoing] through the station, reflecting of [off] the freshly painted walls. A bundle of flowers were [was] clenched between Jack's hands as he patiently stared at the tracks, hoping that the train carrying his beloved mum would arrive. His fingers tapped a constant rythm [rhythm] on the oaks [oak] seat. His toes started wiggling in his shoes [,] U[u]ntil he heard the sound.

"Jack," hushed a quiet voice in his ear.

The sound halted every breath, every sound and every beat of the [his] heart. Startled, he spun his head around, making his jaw drop and eyes widened [eyes widen]. Infront [In front] of him stood his beautiul [beautiful] mum, her slick hair drooping on his [her] shoulders. Her lips smooched [kissed]

his cheeks, as his heart enlightened [filled] with joy. His hands reached out, his mums [mum's] body collapsing in them.

"I haven't seen you in a while," he whispered.

"It was impossible for me too [to] get out of the house with what has happened in the last few days," she replied, tears now flowing down her cheeks. Jack new [knew] that these tears were a sense of happiness. Afterall [After all], since the passing of his father, life hadn't been easy. "No one is in the house to comfort me now. Not your dad, not your sister, not even you. I'm glad that I'm here."

"I understand," ‡ [Jack] reassured her, "and now that I'm with you, I've decided to make the most of it["] "To begin with, I want to apologise [apologise] for making your life harder than it already was. When father passed away, I didn't bother to check in on you because I was too engaged in what I was doing. I understand how hard it is for you, and I want to remind you that I'm always here."

The message was all that his mother needed, touching her heart and making it lively again. Throughout the day, they laughed, cried and chatted. Jack and his mum had finally reunited, and their hearts are [were] now content.