Term 3 - 2025: Week 6 - Writing Homework | Year 5 Scholarship Specialisation

## **Section 1:**

#1 - Opening description with diamond earrings and runner encounter

Strengths: Your sensory details create a vivid scene, particularly "waterlogged leaves, with a hint of petrichor, dew glimmering on the leaves." You also build mystery effectively by describing the runner's familiar movement.

Weakness: Sentence flow problems → Several sentences feel choppy and disconnected. "Hearing a set of feet pounding on the weathered pavement with puffing" creates confusion about what's making the puffing sound. The phrase "I He tilted his face" contains a clear error that interrupts reading.

Exemplar: "As I heard footsteps pounding on the weathered pavement, followed by heavy breathing, I twisted away from a runner whose legs trembled slightly."

#2 - The dialogue exchange between father and daughter

Strengths: Your dialogue feels natural and captures the awkwardness of the reunion. The single words "Father" and "Daughter" show the emotional weight of the moment effectively.

Weakness: Unclear metaphor connections → The phrase "A few words would get lost in the war, lost in the huge, looming cavern that divided us" mixes war and geographical imagery in a confusing way. Readers can't picture how words get lost in both a war and a cavern.

Exemplar: "A few words could never bridge the enormous distance that years of separation had created between us."

#3 - Description of father's physical transformation Strengths: You show character development through physical changes, moving from "skinny shrimp" to "muscular man." The musical reference with "largo tempo" shows creativity in describing heartbeat.

Weakness: Unclear emotional progression  $\rightarrow$  Your narrator's feelings jump around without clear connections. First she notices his strength, then her heart slows, then she feels shame about past thoughts, but these emotions don't flow logically together.

Exemplar: "Seeing his newfound strength, I felt a mixture of surprise and guilt, remembering how I once doubted his ability to protect me."

■ Your piece shows strong potential in creating atmosphere and emotional moments between characters. The reunion scene has genuine feeling, and you use good sensory details to set the mood.

However, your writing would benefit from smoother connections between ideas and clearer emotional journeys. Additionally, you could strengthen your work by ensuring each sentence flows naturally into the next one. Consider reading your writing aloud to catch awkward phrases and missing words. Also, think about how your character's emotions change throughout the scene - make sure readers can follow why she feels different things at different moments. Your dialogue works well, so focus on improving the descriptive passages that surround those conversations.

Overall Score: 41/50

## Section 2:

#1 Two diamond studded earrings dangled from my ears, catching the light to dazzle any onlookers. Hearing a set of feet pounding on the weathered pavement with puffing [Upon hearing footsteps pounding on the weathered pavement, accompanied by heavy breathing], I twisted away from a runner whose legs were quivering slightly. The way he ran was... familiar, almost, like I had seen it in a past life. The air was heavy with the scent of waterlogged leaves, with a hint of petrichor, dew glimmering on the leaves. But suddenly, the jogger turned back, his face half lit by the sun, the other half silhouetted in shadows. I stilled my trembling hands. I stood up, spine straighter, each vertebrae more alert. He tilted his face [He tilted his face], an ongoing battle raging inside him. A minuscule, incredibly hopeful smile was forming across his face.

#2 "Well, hello, Arianna. It's..." he stammered, lost for words. But I couldn't blame him. A few words would never be able to express our conflicts, our seperation [separation], how much time we had been apart for. A few words would get lost in the war, lost in the huge, looming cavern that divided us. [A few words could never bridge the enormous distance that years of separation had created between us.]

#3 "Father," I whispered, the word feeling foreign on my tongue.

"Daughter," he replied, wiping sweat off his forehead. He flexed his muscles as I noticed; he had gotten much burlier. [As I noticed him flexing his muscles, I realised he had become much burlier.] My father, previously a skinny shrimp, had become a muscular man, tanned skin layered with strength. My heart beat more slowly, until it was going at a 'largo' tempo. I dropped my gaze, cheeks burning, fingers clumsily interlacing with each other. I remembered the times where I had thought about his futility and inability to protect me. [I dropped my gaze, cheeks burning, fingers clumsily interlacing with each other as I remembered the times I had doubted his ability to protect me, feeling guilty for those past thoughts.]

There was none of that now.