

Section 1

#1: Opening paragraph

Strengths:

- Your piece captures the panic and urgency of discovering something important is missing through the dramatic scream and the racing questions.
- The way you describe running down the stairs creates a sense of how desperate you felt in that moment.

Pacing Problem → The opening moves very quickly from the discovery to asking your mum, but we don't get a clear sense of what this lucky charm actually is or why it matters so much to you. You tell us you're panicking, but you haven't shown us why this object is precious enough to cause such distress. When you mention looking "everywhere for it," you could describe specific places you searched—under the bed, in drawers, on your desk—which would help build the tension and make us understand the charm's importance.

Exemplar: *"NOOOOOOOOOOO!" I screamed when I woke up at 8 in the morning. My lucky charm—the small jade turtle my grandmother gave me before she passed away—was gone from its usual spot on my bedside table. My chest tightened. Without it, I'd failed every maths test this term. I threw off my covers and dropped to my knees, frantically searching under the bed, then checking my school bag, my jacket pockets, even inside my shoes.*

#2: The conversation with your sister

Strengths:

- You describe your sister's changing facial expressions in an interesting way, showing how she went from confused to guilty, which helps us understand what she was feeling.
- The comparison of your nervous stomach to a washing machine is a creative way to show your emotions.

Dialogue Structure → The conversation between you and your sister is written more like a summary than actual dialogue. When you write "She turned to me and confessed, I found your lucky charm..." this mixes your narration with her words in a confusing way. Real dialogue needs quotation marks and should be separated from the describing parts. Also, your sister's response about why she took it feels quite long and detailed for a 5-year-old to say all at once. Breaking this into shorter exchanges with your reactions in between would make the scene feel more realistic and emotional.

Exemplar: *I took a deep breath and asked as calmly as I could, "Did you see my lucky charm?" My sister's face changed—first confused, then scared, then guilty. She looked down at her iPad. "I... I took it," she whispered. My hands clenched into fists. "You what?" "I put it on eBay." Her voice was tiny now. "I thought you didn't want it because you never played with it."*

#3: The resolution paragraph

Strengths:

- You show personal growth by realising you were too harsh on your sister and apologising, which demonstrates maturity.
- The ending wraps up the story by showing how your relationship with your sister improved.

Rushed Ending → The final paragraph tries to cover too many different ideas in a very short space—buying back the charm, improving your relationship with your sister, telling your parents, and learning a lesson about keeping things safe from thieves. Each of these ideas deserves more attention. The part about buying the charm back happens in just two sentences ("I bought it as quickly as possible and no-one actually wanted it"), which makes what should be a tense moment feel flat. The lesson about keeping things safe from thieves also feels disconnected from the main story, which was really about your sister taking the charm, not about robbery.

Exemplar: *My heart pounded as I opened eBay and typed in the description. There it was—\$10. I had exactly \$20 in my money box. My finger hovered over the "Buy Now" button. What if someone else was looking at it right now? I clicked before I could overthink it. A few seconds later, the confirmation appeared: "Purchase successful." I let out a breath I didn't know I'd been holding.*

■ Your story has an engaging topic—losing something important creates natural tension that keeps readers interested. However, your piece would benefit from slowing down at key moments to let us experience the emotions more fully. Right now, you're telling us what happened very quickly, but stories become powerful when you show us the details. For instance, when you're searching for the charm, describe what your room looks like in chaos, or how your hands shake as you lift up the mattress.

The structure of your narrative moves logically from problem to solution, but some sections feel unbalanced. You spend similar amounts of time on less important moments (walking to your dad's room) as you do on crucial ones (the actual confrontation with your sister and buying the charm back). Think about which scenes deserve more space and detail. The emotional heart of your story—the conflict with your sister—could be expanded with more realistic dialogue and your internal thoughts.

Your writing also jumps between ideas without smooth connections. Additionally, the ending introduces new concepts (the lesson about thieves) that don't connect to the main story about sibling relationships and communication. Consider focusing your conclusion on what you learned about understanding your sister's perspective or about the true value of your lucky charm beyond just keeping it physically safe. What made it lucky wasn't just having it—perhaps it was the reminder of something meaningful, which you could explore more deeply. Finally, watch for small grammar issues like "I rushed the stairs down" which should be "I rushed down the stairs," and work on making your sentences flow more smoothly into each other.

Overall Score: 41/50

Section 2

#1 The Day My Lucky Charm Vanished

"NOOOOOOOOOOO!" I screamed when I woke up at 8 in the morning. "Where is it, where is it?" When I looked up, my mind raced—[—]had my lucky charm really gone missing? I looked everywhere for it and tried to remember where I left it. Then I had an idea: I could ask my mum and

see if she knew where it went. ~~I rushed the stairs down which felt like the stairs were going forever, which probably only took like 10 seconds.~~ [I rushed down the stairs, which felt like they were going on forever, though it probably only took about 10 seconds.] Finally, I reached the kitchen where my mum was ~~making~~[preparing] my breakfast ~~for the past~~[for] 30 minutes. I asked her if she knew where my lucky charm went ~~but~~[, but] the look on her face told me that she didn't know.

Then, I remembered my dad coming into my room last night, so maybe he ~~took~~[had taken] it. I ran to ~~dad's~~[Dad's] room ~~which~~[, which] was located on the right side of the second floor. I went into his room quietly because he ~~is~~[was] usually still asleep at 8:30 ~~am~~[a.m.] since he ~~has~~[had] lots of work to do ~~which~~[, which] can sometimes go ~~up to~~[until] 12:00 ~~pm~~[a.m.] ~~in the night~~[]. Surprisingly, ~~today~~[that morning] he was awake and he saw me come in. He asked me why I was in his room ~~so~~[, so] I straight-up told him the reason. I asked him if he took or knew where my lucky charm went ~~and~~[, and] he said he saw my sister come into my room in the morning when I was asleep. He said he didn't know what she did in my room but ~~she probably took it~~[that she had probably taken it]. I knew I had to go ask my sister.

#2 Now, my sister is only 5 years old ~~so~~[, so] I ~~won't~~[wouldn't] get angry at her~~, I will~~[; I would] only say not to do it again. When I got to my sister's room (~~She sleeps with my mum~~)[(she sleeps with my mum)], she was on the bed with her ~~ipad~~[iPad] watching Youtube Kids. I asked her as ~~calm~~[calmly] as I possibly could because my stomach was turning and turning like a washing machine because of the nervousness. ~~I asked my sister if she saw my lucky charm then the look on her face changed through a chain of facial expressions from confused to scared to hesitant then finally to guilty. She turned to me and confessed, I found your lucky charm and I thought you wouldn't care if I took it because you didn't really do anything with it so I put it on Ebay. I said to my sister in my steadiest voice although I was full of anger, why did you think I didn't care? That is when my sister started tearing up, she said with tears in her eyes, because you didn't do anything with it. I replied with, obviously I didn't do anything with it you're not meant to do anything with it you just place it somewhere so it gives you luck.~~ [I asked my sister if she had seen my lucky charm. The look on her face changed through a chain of facial expressions—from confused to scared to hesitant, then finally to guilty. She turned to me and confessed, "I found your lucky charm, and I thought you wouldn't care if I took it because you didn't really do anything with it, so I put it on eBay." I said to my sister in my steadiest voice, although I was full of anger, "Why did you think I didn't care?" That was when my sister started tearing up. She said, with tears in her eyes, "Because you didn't do anything with it." I replied, "Obviously I didn't do anything with it—you're not meant to do anything with it. You just place it somewhere so it gives you luck."]

Then, my anger faded away and I ~~realized~~[realised] that I ~~was~~[had been] a bit too harsh on my 5~~years~~[-year-]old sister. I ~~apologized~~[apologised] to her for saying those bitter words. I told her to not do that again without my permission. #3 Next, I questioned my sister~~asking~~[, asking] if she could cancel the sale on ~~Ebay~~[eBay]~~but~~[, but] she said that when you put ~~it~~[something] on ~~Ebay~~[eBay] you can't take it back~~you'll~~[—you'd] have to bid for it. I didn't have that much money to bid ~~for~~[with]~~so~~[, so] I had to pray that nobody ~~wants~~[wanted] that lucky charm. When I went ~~into Ebay~~[onto eBay] and searched for ~~it~~~~came~~[, it came] up for \$10~~and~~[, and] luckily I had \$20~~so~~[, so] I could buy it. I bought it as quickly as possible~~and~~[, and] no-one actually wanted ~~it~~~~and~~[, so] I successfully bought it back.

After this incident, ~~me~~[my sister] and ~~my sister~~[I] stopped fighting and actually went along pretty well~~and~~[. We] ~~we somehow~~[] shared my lucky charm together without fighting again. We told our parents about everything~~even~~[, including] when my sister put my lucky charm on ~~Ebay~~[eBay], and honestly~~it~~[, it] was a very exciting experience finding something I lost. ~~Now after this argument that happened~~[After this experience,] I learned to keep my things in a safer place~~so~~[—not only to protect them from thieves, but also to prevent] ~~just in case if a thief tried to rob our house they wouldn't find my stuff~~[misunderstandings with my little sister].