Term 3 Holiday - 2025: Day 1 | 10-Day Intensive Selective Writing

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Section 1

#1: "Allen tumbled out of bed, he lived in a White House, a backyard and a swimming pool."

Strengths:

- You've included descriptive details about Allen's home, which helps readers picture where he
 lives
- The action verb "tumbled" creates a clear image of how Allen gets out of bed

Sentence Structure Problem → This sentence tries to say two different things at once without connecting them properly. When you write "he lived in a White House, a backyard and a swimming pool," it sounds like Allen lives inside the swimming pool, which doesn't make sense. The sentence needs to show that these are all parts of his home. A clearer way would be: *Allen tumbled out of bed in his white house, which had a backyard and a swimming pool.*

#2: "Allen searched all through the house; stuck in the gap of something, in the pool, in the

Strengths:

- You've shown us many different places Allen looked, which demonstrates how thoroughly he searched
- The variety of locations helps readers understand how worried Allen felt

grass of his backyard, on the carpet and everywhere."

Incomplete Sentence Structure → After the semicolon, your sentence becomes a list of places without a clear subject performing the action. Who or what is "stuck in the gap"? The sentence needs to make it clear that Allen was looking in these places. You could write: Allen searched all through the house: he checked the gaps between furniture, the pool, the grass in his backyard, the carpet, and everywhere else he could think of.

#3: "Every day that passed meant something, hope and the resemblance of him and his values."

Strengths:

- You're attempting to show that the lucky charm held deep meaning for Allen
- You're trying to explain why the toy was so important to him

Unclear Meaning → This sentence is confusing because it's not clear what "every day that passed" refers to or how it connects to "hope and the resemblance of him and his values." Readers can't understand what you're trying to say about the charm. When explaining why something is important, you need to be specific and clear. For example: The charm reminded Allen of special memories and the person who gave it to him, which is why he treasured it so much.

Tour piece tells an engaging story about a boy who loses something precious and eventually replaces it. The basic storyline makes sense: Allen loses his lucky charm, sees someone take it, feels sad, and then gets a new one. However, your writing would be much stronger if you developed the story more fully. The emotional moments feel rushed—for instance, when Allen sees the man with his toy, you could spend more time describing his feelings and what he does next. Additionally, some parts of the story create confusion, particularly the section where Allen explains what the charm meant to him. Readers need to understand clearly why this object was so special. Your paragraphs also need work on their structure. Right now, you're jumping between different ideas too quickly without smooth connections. For example, when Allen's mother first asks what's wrong, he says "It is okay," but then the next sentences talk about his thoughts without explaining why he didn't tell her the truth. Focus on making each paragraph stick to one main idea and use connecting words like "however," "then," "because," and "after that" to link your sentences together. Also, remember to start a new paragraph each time a different character speaks. Overall, your story has potential, but it needs clearer explanations, better paragraph organisation, and more developed emotional moments to truly engage your readers.

Overall Score: 40/50

Section 2:

Ring! The clock rang [chimed] as Allen woke out of [up from] bed [. He] he looked at the window [. "What] what a nice day to go for a walk" [!"], he thought to himself. #1 Allen tumbled out of bed, he lived in a White House, a backyard and a swimming pool[in his white house, which had a backyard and a swimming pool]. Out of the corner of his eye he saw that his lucky charm went [had gone] missing. "Without my charm I would never go for a walk", [,"] he sighed. Allen brushed his teeth, ate breakfast and was about to go out but he was still pondering about this.

#2 Allen searched all through the house; stuck in the gap of something, in the pool, in the grass of his backyard, on the carpet and everywhere[: he checked the gaps between furniture, the pool, the grass in his backyard, the carpet, and everywhere else he could think of]. But it was no-where [nowhere] to be found. He stood there crying. His mother came at [and] asked him what was wrong. "It is okay[fine,"] he blurted out. Why did I even think without saying it. [Why didn't I just tell her? he wondered.] #3 Every day that passed meant something, hope and the resemblance of him and his values. [The charm reminded Allen of special memories and the person who gave it to him, which is why he treasured it so much.] As his mum walked away from him he cried and did nothing but sitting [sat] on the floor next to the wall.

He observed [peered] through the window [and] he saw a man going [walking] through the street. He looked closer and grabbed him [his] binoculars. "That is my toy [!"] he gasped", [.] with astonishment [With astonishment,] he stopped crying, and ran down the stairs. He chased the man but he [the man] was still too fast. He felt sad and lost hope. The only thing he could do now was star [stare] at the man running with his toy away from him. Allen started crying again but his [this] time he was [felt] even more sad.

When he returned home, his mother asked what had happened, [. This] this time he would not let it go and told the truth. "I-I lo-ost my t-toy" [."] Don't ["Don't] worry [—] tomorrow i [I] will buy you a new toy and you will be happier. [."] Allen stoped [stopped] crying and this time he was very confident. He stared at his mother and smilies [smiled]. Today is [The next day was] the day when I am going to [he would get his] my new toy. Allen and his mother hopped onto [into] the car and set [headed] to the supermarket. [.]

We [When] they arrived at the supermarket, his mum immediately took Allen to the toys selection [section] at Woolworths. There was [were] lots of different toys but the charms that he saw were exactly the same [as his lost one,] so he purchased the kindergarten [Kinder] chocolate egg and hand

[placed] it onto his bedroom shelf. Now he was not crying anymore—[.] Allen was very happy. With his new charm, he would look after it more and not let anyone take it. He also promised his mum that he would not let any strangers in like that man.