
Term 3 Holiday - 2025: Day 2 | 10-Day Intensive Selective Writing

Section 1:

#1: "On a glorious morning at the Seaside Villa, a small haze walked over the shoreline of Bondi Beach"

Strengths:

- You've created a nice sense of place by naming a real location (Bondi Beach), which helps readers picture the scene clearly.
- Your opening sets the time of day and creates a peaceful morning atmosphere.

Weakness: Unclear sensory description → The phrase "a small haze walked over the shoreline" is confusing because haze doesn't walk—it drifts or hangs in the air. This makes it hard for readers to picture what you're describing. When you use actions that don't match what something does in real life, it can muddle your imagery.

Exemplar: On a glorious morning at the Seaside Villa, a thin mist drifted across the shoreline of Bondi Beach.

#2: "as I woke up from my pillow which was angel wings stacking on top of each other. Soft as a Feather, but Effective like a power drill for sleeping."

Strengths:

• You're trying to show the comfort of your pillow through comparison, which is a good way to help readers understand your experience.

Weakness: Confusing comparisons → The phrase "effective like a power drill for sleeping" doesn't make sense because power drills are noisy, harsh tools—the opposite of what helps people sleep. When your comparisons don't connect logically to what you're describing, readers get confused instead of understanding better. Additionally, "Soft as a Feather" shouldn't have capital letters in the middle of a sentence.

Exemplar: as I woke up from my pillow, which felt like clouds stacked softly on top of each other—gentle and perfect for a peaceful sleep.

#3: "A flurry of Mountains of waves. It was the best sight I had ever seen this week."

Strengths:

You're showing enthusiasm for what you saw, which lets readers know this moment mattered

to you.

Weakness: Incomplete sentence and vague description \rightarrow "A flurry of Mountains of waves" is a fragment—it's not a complete sentence with a subject doing something. Also, saying it's "the best sight

I had ever seen this week" is a bit odd because "ever" means in your whole life, but "this week" limits it

to just seven days. This weakens the impact of your description.

Exemplar: Mountains of waves crashed against the shore, creating white foam that sparkled

in the morning light. It was the most magnificent sight I'd seen in months.

■ Your piece captures a nice moment of waking up at the beach, and your excitement about the experience comes through clearly. However, your writing would benefit from more specific details that help readers experience what you experienced. Instead of just saying the view was "beautiful" or the

"best sight," describe what made it special—what colours did you see? What sounds did you hear? What did the air smell or feel like? Additionally, some of your sentences are fragments or run together

without proper punctuation, which makes them harder to follow. Work on making each sentence complete with a subject and verb. Also, watch your capitalisations—words like "Feather" and

"Mountains" shouldn't have capital letters unless they start a sentence. Your comparisons need to make

logical sense too; think carefully about whether what you're comparing actually matches what you're

trying to describe. Finally, try to vary your sentence beginnings and lengths to make your writing flow

more smoothly from one idea to the next.

Overall Score: 36/50

Section 2:

On [#1 On] a glorious morning at the Seaside Villa, a small haze walked [thin mist drifted] over the shoreline of Bondi Beach, as I woke up from my pillowwhich was [, which felt like] angel wings stacking [stacked] on top of each other [—] Soft [#2 soft] as a Feather [feather], but Effective [yet effective] like a power drill for sleeping [warm blanket wrapping me in comfort]. The overview [view] was beautiful [;] a mass of lights merged into [with] the stained-glass window. I raced down the fleet of stairs to exit the [through the] door. Just like [as] I anticipated: [anticipated:] A flurry of Mountains of waves. [#3 mountains of waves crashed against the shore, their white foam sparkling in the sunlight.] It was the best [most breathtaking] sight I had ever seen [seen all] this week [week]. Nothing beats a trip to a glorious beach, looking at the waves.