

## Section 1

### #1: Opening paragraph (first paragraph)

#### Strengths:

- Your descriptive language creates a strong visual picture of the abandoned guitar, helping readers imagine the scene clearly
- The use of the guitar "waking up" gives the object human-like qualities, which makes it more interesting

**Weak Sentence Flow** → Your opening moves between describing the guitar and introducing the setting, which makes it hard to follow. The phrase "it finally woke up to the sound of a door creaking in the distance" appears suddenly after talking about the guitar being left alone forever. This jumping around confuses readers about what's happening when. Try connecting your ideas more smoothly so readers can follow along easily.

**Exemplar:** *In the pitch-black attic of an abandoned house lay a once-beautiful guitar, now in ruins. Time had faded its bronze coating and turned its strings into something resembling cobwebs. The instrument seemed destined to remain undiscovered—until the creak of a distant door broke the silence.*

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### #2: Leonardo discovering and repairing the guitar (paragraphs 3-5)

#### Strengths:

- Your comparison of Leonardo holding the guitar "like a caring mother holding a newborn child" shows how much the instrument means to him
- The details about broken vases and old paintings help readers understand how dangerous and run-down the house is

**Missing Story Details** → Your writing jumps too quickly from Leonardo finding the guitar to him leaving the house and fixing it. The phrase "That was going to be the best day he ever experienced" tells us how he feels, but we don't see what he actually does next or why he knows how to repair guitars so well. You mention he uses "expert refinement" to fix it, but we never learnt that Leonardo had

woodworking skills. Adding information about where he learnt these skills and showing him working on the repairs would make this part stronger.

**Exemplar:** *Leonardo carefully examined the damaged guitar, remembering the repair techniques he'd studied in his music courses. Over the next few days, he collected wooden scraps from around the neighbourhood and slowly rebuilt the instrument, testing each string as he replaced it.*

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### #3: Leonardo's journey to success (paragraphs 6-9)

#### Strengths:

- The specific number of rejections (over 400, then 600) shows how hard Leonardo worked and didn't give up
- Your ending brings the story full circle by mentioning the guitar again and showing Leonardo is still playing today

**Unclear Time and Events** → Your writing becomes confusing about how much time passes and what actually happens. You write "Months passed by" and then "Years pass" without showing what changes between these times. The sentence "She was much more considerate than the other deciders, who valued wealth and profit over quality" introduces new information about what publishers care about, but this wasn't mentioned before when Leonardo was being rejected. Also, phrases like "Mahmood's 'son'" and comparisons from news reports appear without context—readers don't know who Mahmoud is or why this comparison matters.

**Exemplar:** *After six months and over 600 rejections, Leonardo's persistence finally paid off when he met a publisher who valued talent over fame. Within a year, his unique playing style caught the attention of audiences across the country, and soon his performances were being shared internationally.*

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■ Your story has a clear beginning, middle and end, which helps readers follow Leonardo's journey from finding the guitar to becoming successful. The main idea—that hard work and determination lead to success—comes through well. However, your piece would be stronger if you developed the middle parts more fully. Right now, important moments happen too quickly. For example, Leonardo finds the guitar, fixes it and writes a song all within a few paragraphs, but we don't see enough of how he actually does these things.

Additionally, your writing would benefit from smoother connections between paragraphs. You often jump from one event to the next without showing what happens in between. When you write "Now he needed a publisher" after the paragraph about writing songs, readers might wonder: Did he practise the song? Did he perform it for friends first? Adding these steps would make Leonardo's journey feel more real.

Your descriptive language is quite good in some places, particularly when describing the abandoned house and the guitar. Try using this same level of detail when writing about Leonardo's actions and feelings. Instead of telling us "determination in his brain," you could show us what he does that proves he's determined.

Also, be careful with the information you include. Some details, like "ten years of college experience" and references to Mahmoud, raise questions that your story doesn't answer. Make sure every piece of information you add helps readers understand the story better. In the paragraph about his success, focus on describing one or two specific performances or songs rather than using general phrases like "performing songs so incredibly." This will help readers connect with Leonardo's achievement more deeply.

Finally, check that your timeline makes sense. If Leonardo just graduated from university, how does he have ten years of college experience? Small details like this can confuse readers, so read through your work and make sure all the facts fit together logically.

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**Overall Score: 42/50**

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## Section 2

~~In a abandoned~~ [In an abandoned] house, in the silent and pitch black attic, there lay a once-beautiful guitar, now in ruins. Its bronze coating was fading away while the ~~string~~ [strings] began to resemble cobwebs recklessly straightened. Timeworn it was, it looked as if it would be left undiscovered from the rest of humanity. ~~Left in a ever-lasting slumber, it finally woke up to the sound of a door creaking in the distance.~~ [Left in an everlasting slumber, the instrument finally stirred at the sound of a door creaking in the distance.]

#1 ~~There, entering the house is~~ [Entering the house was] Leonardo Colombo, a beginner musician ~~graduating~~ [who had graduated] with the highest distinction in his report cards in ~~college~~ [university]. Now he was looking for a job to earn enough money for a guitar. Unfortunately, nobody trusts young adults ~~that~~ [who] just ~~can~~ [came] out of school. ~~So his Leonardo's~~ [So Leonardo's] best chance to scrape a living was to search for scraps in ancient ramshackle buildings. ~~That's~~ [That was] how he came across what would lead him to destiny.

Creeping into the lonely two-~~storied~~ [storeyed] house, Leonardo ~~tip-toed~~ [tiptoed] through the sinister hallway, paintings stripped with old age along with piles of desks upturned, looking as if ~~on~~ [one] touch of ~~it~~ [them] would disintegrate the wooden ~~object~~ [objects] into fine powdered dust. Broken vases littered the fragile floor, ~~placing~~ [posing] a hazard of creating a cut on the heel of the foot. ~~Leonardo sneaked his way around the inside of the house, every step vibrating across the rooms and bringing suspense~~ [Leonardo crept through the house, every step echoing across the rooms and building suspense.]

#2 He finally reached the attic, carefully sliding the dilapidated hatch onto a lone box seated right next to the entrance. As Leonardo climbed ~~out of~~ [through] the trapdoor opening, his eyes scanned the garret and eventually landed ~~onto~~ [on] the splintered instrument. To a professional musician, this ~~was to be~~ [would be] considered rubbish. But for him, this was a spark of hope. Leonardo slithered towards the guitar, his pupils filled with obsession, as the path to destiny came closer until it was in his arms, like a caring mother holding a newborn child. A grin appeared on his face after years of despair. That was going to be the best day he ever experienced.

Leonardo finally rushed out of the hut, the instrument in his arms and determination in his brain. Greatness was up ahead. But there needed to be some tweaks before it was time to shine. With the extra wooden remains from other items, Leonardo repaired the shattered guitar with expert refinement. It no longer resembled a heap of wood recklessly glued together. The instrument looked more professional, with its fresh streaks of bronze paint and new replaced ~~silver~~ [silver] strings. Now the only problem was to attract an audience.

Leonardo had ~~learned~~ [learnt] in his years in a high school for music that copyrighting a song was found illegal if unregistered. There ~~would~~ [would] be a heavy fine and many other things that will damage your reputation. To avoid this sort of conflict, Leonardo Colombo decided to create a new song himself. Songwriting was extremely difficult and exhausting, especially without accidentally acquiring a [an] idea that has been used. But with the help of ten years of ~~college~~ [university] experience, he was able to compose a set of lyrics for his new piece.

#3 Now he needed a publisher, but who would produce a song from a person almost ~~consider~~ [considered] a beggar [?] Months passed by and soon his rejections by judges skyrocketed to over 400. The same feeling of hopelessness overwhelmed Leonardo as his total ~~continue~~ [continued] to rise. It was getting too stressing to try again. And just at the moment he was going to give up on himself, his luck changed. Fortunately, as he made his way out of the studio, Leonardo bumped into a person who turned out to be a publisher herself. She was much more considerate ~~that~~ [than] the other deciders, who valued wealth and profit over quality. Leonardo then got his song officially published, after a whopping 600 ~~fails~~ [failures]. And before he knew it, it was ~~show~~ [showtime].

Years ~~pass~~ [passed] and Leonardo became a worldwide hero, performing songs so incredibly [that] he was known as ~~Mahmood's~~ [Mahmoud's] 'son'. His story was shared across the planet, from the icy tips of Greenland to the scorching ~~Southern~~ [southern] shores of Australia. Many of Leonardo's pieces were often described as 'lilting music wafting through the air like a friendly ghost filled to the brim with enlightenment'. The bond between him and his first faithful guitar ~~on~~ [in] a news report on his life was ~~known~~ [described] as 'intertwined together like a flower to the rich soil', which gave the air of resonance very common. Leonardo is still alive today, joyfully strumming through the night on his guitar that had ~~change~~ [changed] his life.