Term 3 Holiday - 2025:Day 2 - Writing Homework | Year 5 RW

Section 1

#1: "As Lucas walked into a place once filled with laughter and joy he felt a strange feeling of danger Creak! His immense weight broke a splintered floorboard in pieces sending him into a secret ancient underground tomb."

Strengths:

- You've created an exciting moment that grabs the reader's attention with the sudden fall through the floor.
- The contrast between past happiness ("laughter and joy") and present danger works well to set the mysterious mood.

Weakness: Unclear Scene Setting → Your opening doesn't tell us where Lucas actually is. Phrases like "a place once filled with laughter and joy" are too vague. Is it an old house? A theatre? An abandoned building? Readers need clearer details to picture the scene. Instead of just saying the place was once happy, you could describe what the building looks like now—broken windows, peeling paint, dusty furniture. Also, "His immense weight broke a splintered floorboard" sounds like Lucas is extremely heavy, which seems odd for someone who later can run and climb. A lighter description would work better.

Exemplar: As Lucas walked into the abandoned music hall, once filled with laughter and joy, he felt a chill of danger. Creak! The old floorboard beneath him suddenly snapped, sending him tumbling into a secret underground tomb.

#2: "Hours passed and he woke up from this tragedy. His parents began to worry and called the police but they wouldn't help because they said everyone who entered didn't make it back. Lucas also began to worry if he would to survive. He walked like a drunk man because he hadn't eaten or drank anything in the past 36 hours."

Strengths:

• You've shown how serious the situation is by mentioning the police won't help.

• The detail about Lucas not eating or drinking for 36 hours helps explain why he's weak.

Weakness: Rushed Plot Development → This paragraph jumps through too many events too quickly without giving them enough detail. "Hours passed and he woke up from this tragedy" doesn't explain what happened during those hours or why fainting is called a "tragedy." The police response feels sudden—how did his parents know he was in the building? Why would police refuse to help a missing child? This needs more explanation. Additionally, saying Lucas hadn't eaten "in the past 36 hours" is confusing because your story doesn't seem to cover that much time. The connection between events feels choppy rather than smooth.

Exemplar: Several hours later, Lucas woke with a pounding headache. Meanwhile, his parents had grown worried when he didn't return home. They called the police, but the officers refused to search the old building, explaining that others who had entered never came back. Lucas knew he had to find his own way out.

#3: "As he wanted to sign up for the musical at a theatre he had to go past a audition. Then he started playing in delight to be there."

Strengths:

- You've moved the story forward by showing Lucas taking action with the guitar.
- The idea of Lucas performing connects back to the guitar he found.

Weakness: Missing Important Details → This section leaves out key information that would make your story clearer. How did Lucas get from his village back to a theatre? How much time has passed? Why does he suddenly want to audition when he just went through such a frightening experience? The sentence "he had to go past a audition" is confusing—do you mean "pass an audition"? Also, "playing in delight to be there" doesn't tell us what song he played or how he felt holding his ancestor's guitar for the first time in performance. Your readers need these connecting details to understand the story's flow.

Exemplar: A week later, Lucas decided to audition for the village theatre's musical. He brought his great-great-grandfather's guitar, hoping to honour his ancestor's memory. When his turn came, he stepped onto the stage, nervous but excited.

Your story has an imaginative plot with supernatural elements—a mysterious guitar, healing music, and a dangerous underground discovery. However, your writing needs stronger foundations before these creative ideas can truly shine. The biggest area for improvement is helping your readers see and understand what's happening. Right now, many sentences tell us facts without showing us the scene. For example, instead of writing "a place once filled with laughter and joy," describe what that place looks like, sounds like, or smells like. Does Lucas see old posters on the walls? Does dust float in beams of light? These details make your story come alive.

Additionally, your story jumps from event to event too quickly. Slow down at important moments. When Lucas finds the guitar, what does it look like? How does it feel in his hands? What do those memories look like when they "reverberate around him"? Spending more time on these key scenes will help your readers connect with Lucas's journey.

Your paragraphs also need better connections between ideas. Look at your third paragraph—it starts with Lucas waking up, then suddenly his parents are calling police, then we're back to Lucas worrying. These ideas should flow smoothly into each other with clear transitions. Try adding phrases like "Meanwhile, back at home" or "At the same time" to guide your readers.

Finally, some parts of your story need clarification. The detail about "D3 A3 B7" musical notes is confusing because musical notes don't use numbers like B7. Research how musical notation actually works, or simply describe the beautiful melody Lucas plays. Also, phrases like "giant village" and "musty crusty dusty basement" feel odd—villages are usually small, and three similar adjectives in a row sound repetitive rather than descriptive.

Overall Score: 41/50

Section 2

#1 As Lucas walked into a place once filled with laughter and joy he felt a strange feeling of danger Creak! [As Lucas walked into a place once filled with laughter and joy, he felt a strange feeling of danger. Creak!] His immense weight broke a splintered floorboard in pieces [The splintered floorboard

beneath him suddenly broke into pieces,] sending him into [tumbling down into] a secret ancient underground tomb. Brave Lucas then explored the place to find his great-great-grandfather's guitar.

#2 He rounded the corner [, and] his heart pounded as if he ran [had run] 50 kilometres non-stop. And there it was,[—] a half-hidden guitar in the shadows, resting on his great-great-grandfather's coffin. When he touched it, memories of all the bad things reverberated around him like shadows keeping a grave shut tightly for decades. Then there was a slight shock that caused Lucas to faint on the musty erusty dusty basement [onto the musty basement floor].

#3 Hours passed [, and] he woke up from this tragedy [from his faint]. His parents began to worry and ealled the police but they wouldn't help because they said everyone who entered didn't make it back. [Meanwhile, his parents began to worry and called the police, but the officers wouldn't help because they claimed that everyone who had entered the building never made it back.] Lucas also began to worry if he would to survive [whether he would survive]. He walked like a drunk man because he hadn't eaten or drank [drunk] anything in the past 36 hours. Lucas snatched this soul guitar [the soul guitar,] running [ran] outside and not looking [didn't look] back even once.

Back at his giant village his parents were so gratefully glad [so grateful and relieved] that he was safe and sound in their cozy safe [cosy, safe] home. Little did they know Lucas was going to please the whole village with his guitar skills [by] healing everyone's souls. As he wanted to sign up for the musical at a theatre he had to go past a audition [pass an audition]. Then he started playing [with] delight to be there [at being there].

As he started playing this magical extraordinary guitar without a sheet of paper to glance but [at, he realised that] secretly in his head he had this [the notes] written down ["D3 A3 B7 C3 A8 A7 A8 A8 A8 "].] because [Because] the judges couldn't read Lucas' mind they instantly let him join the theatre bandhis [. His] guitar only let out green notes coming from it healing peoples [people's] souls by generating this wonderful music for the judges.