

Section 1:

#1 "I enjoy writing because it allows me to explore ideas I can't always express in real life. On paper, I can imagine, test, and create without limits."

Strengths: Your explanation shows genuine passion for writing and clearly explains your personal connection to it. You use strong action words like "explore," "imagine," and "create" that make your writing come alive.

Weakness: Lack of specific examples → You tell us why you love writing, but you don't show us what kinds of ideas you explore or what you've actually written. Adding a specific example of something you've created would make your response much more convincing and interesting.

Exemplar: *"For instance, last week I wrote a short story about a girl who could talk to animals because I've always wondered what my pet cat is really thinking."*

#2 "One of my favourite books is The House of Hades by Rick Riordan. I like it because Percy and Annabeth (demigods)'s journey through Tartarus shows courage and teamwork, while their friends above ground remind me how important trust and friendship are when facing challenges."

Strengths: You provide a concrete example of your reading preferences and explain what lessons you learned from the book. Your analysis shows you think deeply about what you read.

Weakness: Surface-level analysis → Whilst you mention important themes like courage and teamwork, you don't explain how these themes actually connect to your own life or experiences. Your analysis stays quite general rather than personal.

Exemplar: *"Percy and Annabeth's determination in Tartarus reminds me of when I struggled to learn a difficult netball move - I had to keep trying even when it felt impossible, just like they did."*

#3 "My core values are persistence, respect, and integrity. Persistence teaches me to keep going even when I feel that all is lost. Respect, which I personally think is the most important, suits me as even with my conversations with strangers are unbiased and fair, letting them know the worth of each individual."

Strengths: You clearly identify your values and attempt to explain why each one matters to you. You show self-awareness by ranking respect as most important.

Weakness: Unclear expression → The sentence about respect becomes confusing with phrases like "suits me as even with my conversations." Your ideas are good, but the way you've written them makes them hard to follow.

Exemplar: *"Respect is most important to me because I always try to treat everyone fairly in my conversations, whether they're my friends or people I've just met."*

■ Your response shows genuine enthusiasm for your interests and demonstrates that you think about your experiences in meaningful ways. You've included a good variety of topics - reading, writing, sport, and personal values - which gives a well-rounded picture of who you are. However, your piece would benefit from more specific examples and clearer connections between your interests and your personal growth. Additionally, some of your sentences need restructuring to make your excellent ideas easier to understand. Also, consider explaining how your different interests connect to each other - for instance, how does reading help your writing, or how do the teamwork skills from netball apply to other areas of your life? Furthermore, you could strengthen your response by showing rather than just telling about your values through specific examples of times you've demonstrated persistence, respect, or integrity.

Score: 42/50

Section 2:

#1 Hi, I'm Jo Gao, and I attend Hollywood Primary School in Perth, W.A. I love reading and writing. Why? Simple. I enjoy writing because it allows me to explore ideas I can't always express in real life. On paper, I can imagine, test, and create without limits. **#2** I like reading because every book feels like opening a new doorway—sometimes into another world, sometimes into a new way of thinking. One of my favourite books is *The House of Hades* by Rick Riordan. I like it because Percy and Annabeth (~~demigods~~) [the demigods'] journey through Tartarus shows courage and teamwork, while their friends above ground remind me how important trust and friendship are when facing challenges. But I also balance my adoration for literacy with sports, in this case, netball. In netball, things can change in a second—you have to read the game and adapt quickly. I enjoy that challenge because it keeps me

focused and teaches me to think under pressure. #3 My core values are persistence, respect, and integrity. Persistence teaches me to keep going even when I feel that all is lost. ~~Respect, which I personally think is the most important, suits me as even with my conversations with strangers are unbiased and fair, letting them know the worth of each individual.~~ [Respect, which I personally think is the most important, guides how I treat everyone - I make sure my conversations with strangers are unbiased and fair, showing them that each person has worth.] And integrity. Integrity means taking responsibility for my actions. If I make a mistake in class or during practice, I don't try to hide it—I own up and try to improve.