

Section 1

#1: Opening paragraphs introducing Jim and Bob

Strengths:

- You've created a clear contrast between the two main characters, which helps readers understand their different personalities straight away.
- The description of Jim's daily routine effectively shows his loneliness and boredom through specific details like "scan, return, repeat."

Repetitive language → Your opening relies heavily on repeating the same words, particularly "barely" which appears three times in quick succession ("barely open his eyes," "barely having anything," "Barely anyone visits"). This makes the writing feel less polished. Additionally, words like "boring" and "lame" are used multiple times without exploring more specific descriptions of Jim's feelings. Instead of repeating "barely," you could show Jim's boredom through different details—perhaps describing how slowly the clock moves or how he counts the same books on the shelf.

Exemplar: *Jim had served as the school librarian for ten years, and each day felt indistinguishable from the last. Hours would pass with nothing but the hum of fluorescent lights and the occasional creak of the old building.*

#2: Bob's entrance and interaction at the counter

Strengths:

- The simile comparing Bob to "a rich man walks into his own mansion" adds personality and shows Bob's confidence in an imaginative way.

Underdeveloped character interaction → The conversation between Bob and Jim feels rushed and lacks realistic detail. Bob suddenly fires off three questions in a row ("What's your favourite food? How does it feel being a librarian? Do you like your job?"), but we don't see Jim actually answering any of them except with "Alright I guess..." The shift from Jim finding Bob "annoying" to "enjoy[ing] it" happens too quickly without showing us what Bob said or did that changed Jim's mind. Readers need

to see the actual exchange—perhaps Bob sharing something about himself, or Jim gradually opening up with his responses.

Exemplar: *"So, how's your day been?" Bob asked warmly whilst Jim scanned the book. Jim glanced up, surprised. "Alright, I suppose," he mumbled. Bob leant against the counter. "You know, I've always thought librarians have the best job—surrounded by stories all day. What's your favourite book here?"*

#3: The conclusion

Strengths:

- You've given the story a hopeful ending that shows genuine change in Jim's character.

Overly simplistic resolution → The ending wraps up too neatly and too quickly. The statement "Bob had changed Jim" tells readers what happened rather than showing the gradual transformation. We jump from one conversation to "People started to love him" and "Bob and Jim became the best of friends" without seeing any examples of Jim's new energetic personality or how their friendship actually developed over time. The phrase "no matter what" is vague and doesn't give specific examples of how they cared for each other.

Exemplar: *In the weeks that followed, Jim found himself looking forward to Bob's visits. He started recommending books to students and even created a display of his personal favourites. The library, once a place of silence and solitude, gradually filled with the quiet chatter of students seeking Jim's advice.*

■ Your piece tells a heartwarming story about friendship and personal growth, which is a lovely message to explore. However, the narrative would benefit from more detailed development. Right now, the story moves too quickly through important moments—particularly the conversation between Bob and Jim, which is the turning point of your entire piece. Take time to expand this section by including actual dialogue where we hear what they discuss and see Jim's responses change gradually.

Additionally, your writing sometimes tells readers what's happening rather than showing it through specific details and actions. For instance, instead of writing "Bob was very content and kind-hearted," you could demonstrate these qualities through his actions and words. The second paragraph about

Bob could be woven into the story when we actually meet him, rather than stopping the narrative to describe him separately.

Consider developing your ending more fully as well. Show us specific examples of how Jim changed—perhaps describe a scene where he helps a student find a book, or show him and Bob having lunch together. This would make the transformation feel more believable and satisfying. Also, work on varying your word choices to avoid repetition, which will make your writing flow more smoothly. Your story has real potential; it just needs more depth and specific moments to bring it to life!

Overall Score: 42/50

Section 2:

~~#1 Today was just an average and lame day once again for Jim. Jim was in his fifties when he served as librarian for ten years at Awesome High School and is used to the same boring routine again and again.~~ [Today was another unremarkable day for Jim, who had spent ten years as the librarian at Awesome High School. Now in his fifties, he had grown accustomed to the monotonous routine.] Scan, return, repeat. ~~He could barely open his eyes some days due to barely having anything to do and just sitting at the counter alone. Barely anyone visits the library these days which always makes him question why he does this job.~~ [Some days, the lack of activity left him struggling to stay alert as he sat alone at the counter. With so few visitors to the library, he often questioned why he continued in this role.] Every day he ~~looks~~ [looked] outside the window to see children with joyful smiles as they ~~play~~ [played] their pleasant games. Sometimes, he wanted to play those games too. What could you do just sitting, waiting for people to come and borrow books alone?

On the other hand, there was Bob, who was a very content and kind-hearted 8th ~~grade~~ [year] teacher who loved to make people's days. With his welcoming smile, he ~~always was able to~~ [could always] brighten his class no matter what. Learning ~~is~~ [was] full of leisure and straightforward for his students [as he made sure] ~~making sure~~ everyone ~~understands~~ [understood] the concept. His students ~~love~~ [loved] and ~~respect~~ [respected] him, gossiping about how he ~~is~~ [was] the best teacher.

~~#2 Today at Lunch break~~ [lunch break], whilst the students were playing, Bob needed to fetch a book from the library for next period's history session. Like ~~how~~ a rich man walks into his own mansion,

Bob strolled confidently into the library. His footsteps alerted Jim, who was half asleep. "Someone's coming into the library?" he uttered to himself. He quickly widened his eyes and straightened his back. Jim squinted his eyes, looking over the desk to see who it was. From what he could see, it was a fine young man waddling around each aisle, scavenging for a book. He seemed fine and looked like he didn't need help. Jim sighed and rested back in his chair, waiting for him to come up like any normal person, borrow the book, and leave.

After a significant amount of time ~~and~~ [spent] digging through ~~aisles~~ [the aisles], he found the perfect book which was just what he needed. He swept away the dust ~~of~~ [from] the book with his hand and proudly headed to the counter. "May I borrow this book please?" he asked politely. His smile stretched from ear to ear. Without a word, Jim took it to scan ~~it~~. "So how's your day going?[/?]" Bob questioned Jim while [whilst] he was scanning. "Alright, I guess..." Bob decided to have a conversation with him. "What's your favourite food? How does it feel being a librarian? Do you like your job?" Although Jim thought it was annoying at the start, he started to enjoy it later on. No one had really talked to him like this. It made him feel valued. In the end, they were both waving ~~bye~~ [goodbye] to each other happily.

#3 Bob had changed Jim. From now on, Jim wasn't just your average and lame librarian [;] he was an energetic and fun one. People started to love him for this new personality. Bob and Jim became the best of friends after the encounter and always cared for each other no matter what.