

# Section 1

## #1: Opening Paragraph – "A blurry black and white photograph hung in the dusty attic..."

### Strengths:

- Your vivid imagery creates a mysterious atmosphere that draws readers into the scene
- The comparison of weeds and grass to "giraffes' necks" shows creative thinking

**Confusing sentence structure** → Your sentences run together without proper punctuation, making it difficult to follow your ideas. For example, "spider webs everywhere like landmines" and "This was the home to a war veteran specifically my grandpa Anthony" both need full stops or commas to separate complete thoughts. The phrase "it was burden" is missing the word "a" before burden, which makes the sentence incomplete.

**Exemplar:** *Spider webs hung everywhere like landmines. This was the home of a war veteran—specifically, my grandpa Anthony.*

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## #2: Middle Section – "When I finally reached the door, I was nothing but bones..."

### Strengths:

- Your use of exaggeration to show how difficult the task was demonstrates strong descriptive intent

**Unclear meaning** → The phrase "I was nothing but bones, I had no muscle all my skin has been attacked vicious plants" is confusing because it's not clear what you actually mean. Did the plants scratch you, or are you describing how tired you felt? The sentence also switches between past tense ("was," "had") and present perfect ("has been attacked"), which muddles the timeline. Additionally, "attacked vicious plants" is missing a word—it should be "attacked *by* vicious plants."

**Exemplar:** *When I finally reached the door, I was exhausted. My skin was covered in scratches from the vicious plants.*

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## #3: The Letter and Ending – "If you receive this letter, son..."

### Strengths:

- The emotional content of the letter provides a touching moment

- Your ending shows personal growth and realisation about your grandfather

**Missing connections** → The jump from the present day to 9/11 happens too suddenly without explanation. You don't tell us how the narrator found the photograph or why it was hidden in the attic. The letter says "son," but we don't know if the narrator is the son or someone else. The final sentence "I new that he will always be there for me" uses the wrong word ("new" instead of "knew") and doesn't explain how discovering this letter changed the narrator's understanding.

**Exemplar:** *As I read his final words, I finally understood why Mum never spoke about that day. Grandpa Anthony had been on Flight 93, and though I never met him, I knew he was watching over me.*

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■ Your piece shows genuine emotion and a powerful story idea about discovering a grandfather's last message. However, the writing needs clearer organisation to help readers follow your narrative. Focus on writing one complete thought per sentence, using full stops to separate ideas. Additionally, you should explain the connections between events more clearly—for example, how did the narrator not know their grandfather died on 9/11 until finding this photograph? Also, check your sentences to make sure all the necessary words are included, like "a" before "burden" and "by" in "attacked by vicious plants." Your comparisons and descriptions are creative, but they work better when the basic sentence structure is correct first.

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**Overall Score: 38/50**

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## Section 2:

~~Present day~~ [Present Day]

A blurry black and white photograph hung in the dusty attic, [. There were] spider webs everywhere ~~like~~ ~~landmines~~ [, hanging like landmines]. This was the home ~~to~~ [of] a war veterans ~~specifically~~ [—specifically,] my grandpa Anthony. His house ~~has~~ [had] been untouched for many years ~~weeds~~ [. Weeds] and grass ~~like giraffes' neck~~ [grew like giraffes' necks], ~~impossible to breach~~ [impossible to breach] through these natural defences. It took me weeks to clear this jungle, and it was ~~burden~~ [a burden]. #1 When I finally reached the door, I was ~~nothing but bones, I~~ [exhausted. I] had no muscle ~~at~~ [, and all] my skin ~~has been attacked~~ [had been attacked by] vicious plants. #2 When I went up ~~the~~ [to the] attic, I dodged spider webs and other ~~this~~ [things] like mouse traps (even though I stepped on that thing like ten times) ~~and~~ [, and I] finally saw ~~photograph~~ [a photograph] with writing behind it. I took it downstairs and sat down. I breathed a heavy breath ~~this is~~ [. This was] about to be the toughest day of my life. [.]

### 2001 9/11 #3

If [If] you receive this letter, ~~son~~<sup>this</sup> [, this] means I didn't survive.

I don't have much time, but I want to tell you I love you and will be proud of whatever you become.

Anthony

Present day

I never ~~realised~~ [realised] that he ~~died~~ [had died] on that plane ~~but~~ [, but] as bad as things might get ~~I now~~ [, I knew] that he ~~will~~ [would] always be there for me ~~watching~~ [, watching] over me.