

Section 1

#1: "An old man sat in his veranda gazing at the falling sunset. He lived in a remote village in the middle of Australia where people never go."

Strengths:

- Your opening creates a clear picture of the setting with the old man on the veranda watching the sunset
- You establish the isolated location effectively, helping readers understand why the cottage feels so distant

Weakness: Unclear and confusing description → The phrase "where people never go" creates confusion because if people never go there, how is there a village? Also, "in the middle of Australia" is vague. Additionally, the comparison about travelling to America by boat being faster than driving there doesn't make sense geographically and distracts from your story.

Exemplar: *He lived in a remote village in central Australia, hours away from the nearest town.*

#2: "Excuse me is your name Chris Prosy" / "And is your name Steven Prosy" / "I examined him before answering."

Strengths:

- Your dialogue starts the interaction between the two characters quickly
- You show that the old man recognises who the visitor is

Weakness: Inconsistent point of view → Your story suddenly switches from third person ("An old man sat") to first person ("I examined him"). You need to choose one viewpoint and stick with it throughout. Also, the dialogue needs proper punctuation – question marks are missing from both questions.

Exemplar: *"Excuse me, is your name Chris Prosy?" The old man examined him before answering. "And is your name Steven Prosy?"*

#3: "The young man tried to relax his anger before answering. 'You promised to give me a home to live in after I come back from work experience and I explicitly mentioned that to buy me a house.' 'What's the difference.' 'A house has running water and fixed electricity, this is a disgrace to live in.'"

Strengths:

- Your dialogue reveals the conflict between the two characters clearly
- You show Steven's disappointment and frustration building

Weakness: Awkward sentence structure → The phrase "I explicitly mentioned that to buy me a house" doesn't sound natural. The sentence structure makes it hard to understand what Steven meant to say. Also, "What's the difference" needs a question mark because it's a question.

Exemplar: *"You promised to give me a proper home after I came back from work experience. I explicitly told you to buy me a house."*

■ Your piece tells an interesting story about a grandfather who didn't keep his promise to his grandson, and the conflict between them is clear. However, your writing needs work on staying consistent with one point of view throughout the story. The biggest problem is switching between "the old man" and "I" – you must choose either third person (he/the old man) or first person (I) and use it all the way through. Your dialogue also needs better punctuation, with question marks and commas in the right places. Additionally, some of your descriptions don't make logical sense, like saying people never go to a village where someone lives. Try to think carefully about whether your descriptions are realistic and clear. Also, several of your sentences have awkward phrasing that makes them hard to understand, particularly when Steven explains what he was promised. You could strengthen your story by adding more description of the cottage itself so readers can see why Steven is so upset. Think about showing us the broken-down condition of the place rather than just having Steven tell us about it. Finally, your ending feels rushed – consider adding more emotion or reaction from the old man to make the conclusion more powerful.

Section 2:

The Cottage

An old man sat ~~in~~ [on] his veranda gazing at the falling sunset. He lived in a remote village in the middle of Australia ~~where people never go. In fact it was probably faster to travel to America by boat than to drive there.~~ [, far from any major town.]

Then a young male pedestrian stopped in front of the old man's cottage.

~~#1 "Excuse me is your name Chris Prosy"~~ ["Excuse me, is your name Chris Prosy?"]

~~I examined~~ [The old man examined] him before answering. ~~"And is your name Steven Prosy"~~ ["And is your name Steven Prosy?"]

He hesitated and approached ~~me~~ [him] carefully ~~then~~ [, then] asked. [,] "You live here still?"

"Why not.[?]"

"You promised that you would find yourself a home in the city."

"I said I will if it doesn't exceed my budget."

"And your budget was 100,000."

"That is correct."

~~#2~~ He sat down on the chair opposite ~~me~~ [him]. "You expected to buy a house using that budget." He gave the old man a stone-hard stare.

"That is how much this house ~~costed~~ [cost]."

~~#3~~ The young man tried to relax his anger before answering.

~~"You promised to give me a home to live in after I come back from work experience and I explicitly mentioned that to buy me a house."~~ ["You promised to give me a proper home after I came back from work experience. I explicitly told you to buy me a house."]

~~"What's the difference."~~ ["What's the difference?"]

"A house has running water and fixed electricity, [.] ~~this~~ [This] is a disgrace to live in." He spat the last words out with hate and disbelief.

They watched the last rays of sunlight die out~~and~~ [, and] the young man stood up and walked off~~leaving~~ [, leaving] the old man alone again.