

Section 1

#1 Opening Scene (First Paragraph)

Strengths:

- You've created an exciting start with vivid sensory details, particularly "the salty water in the ocean seasoned like a steak" which helps readers imagine what you're experiencing
- The action moves quickly and pulls readers into the adventure straight away

Confusing Timeline → You wrote "As I held my breath I soon ran out of breath", which doesn't make sense because if you just started holding your breath, you wouldn't run out so quickly. This creates confusion about how much time has passed. Then you jump to "2 hours later" without explaining how you survived underwater for that long without breathing.

***Exemplar:** "As I held my breath, my lungs began to burn. Everything went dark as I ran out of air."*

#2 Prison Scene (Second Paragraph)

Strengths:

- Your description of emotions shows how scared you feel - "My hands quivered, a drop of sweat dropped on my finger and there were butterflies in my stomach"
- The guards' dialogue makes the situation feel dangerous and real

Missing Character Reaction → After the guards throw you in prison and shout that you'll be there "for eternity", you only show physical fear (shaking hands, sweating). You don't explain what you're thinking or feeling about this terrible news. Your piece would be stronger if you showed more emotional depth here - perhaps panic, disbelief, or determination.

***Exemplar:** "My heart sank. Eternity? I couldn't spend the rest of my life locked away from home, from everything I knew. I had to find a way out."*

#3 Escape Sequence (Fourth and Fifth Paragraphs)

Strengths:

- The escape plan builds tension and keeps the story moving forward
- You include specific details like "dodging all the guards like they were still trees" which creates clear images

Rushed Plot Development → Your escape happens too easily and quickly. You mention breaking bars made of "dry seaweed", getting caught by guards, blocking a sword with a fork, then suddenly you've escaped. Each of these events deserves more description. How did the fork block a sword? How did you dodge crowds of guards? The story moves so fast that readers can't picture what's actually happening or feel the danger.

Exemplar: *"I raised my fork just as the sword came down. The metal clashed against metal with a loud clang that rang through my arms. For a moment, the guard looked surprised - just long enough for me to duck under his arm and keep running."*

■ Your piece has an imaginative concept - an underwater city with prisons and guards is creative and interesting. However, the story feels rushed throughout. You jump from one event to the next without giving readers enough time to understand what's happening or to connect with your feelings. For example, you wake up in an underwater city (which should be amazing and confusing), but you don't describe what you see, hear, or feel about this incredible discovery. You immediately move to being arrested.

Additionally, your piece needs more showing instead of telling. When you write "there were butterflies in my stomach", you're telling us you're nervous. Instead, you could show this by describing how your voice shook when you spoke, or how you couldn't stop pacing the cell. This makes readers feel like they're experiencing the story with you.

The middle section where you're in prison could be expanded. What does the cell look like? What do you and Finn talk about whilst planning? What does the underwater city look like through the window? These details would make your story come alive. Also, your escape plan seems too simple. Breaking seaweed bars and running past guards doesn't create much suspense. Think about adding obstacles - maybe the bars are tougher than expected, or you have to hide from guards, or something goes wrong with the oxygen tank.

Your ending happens very suddenly. You escape, swim up, and see the sunset - all in just a few sentences. This is the climax of your story, so slow it down! What does it feel like to swim through the bubble? Is it hard to leave Finn behind? What emotions do you feel as you reach the surface? Spending

more time on important moments will make your writing much more engaging and satisfying for readers.

Overall Score: 40/50

Section 2

#1 The secrets of the deep sea.

Waves crashed ~~to~~ **[onto]** the shore **[. The]** ~~the~~ whirlpool grew ~~humongously~~ **[enormously]** large as I tried to escape the water. The closer it got **[, the]** the larger it became. Before I could flee, the whirlpool ~~ate~~ **[swallowed]** me like a beast. As I got sucked into the whirlpool all I could taste was the salty water in the ocean seasoned like a steak. ~~As I held my breath I soon ran out of breath.~~ **[I held my breath, but my lungs began to burn. Within moments, everything went dark as I ran out of air.]**

#2 2 hours later... I woke up on the bottom of the ocean and I gazed at this giant bubble ~~around~~ **[surrounding]** this underwater city. I stood up ~~and~~ **[, and]** I saw 2 guards ~~grabbing~~ **[grab]** me and ~~threw~~ **[throw]** me into a prison cell. They ~~had~~ screamed at me angrily ~~like~~ **[, as if]** I had done something that could've ended the world ~~and~~ **[, and]** yelled **[:]** "You have been escorted here due to you trespassing into our city ~~and~~ **[, and]** this is where you'll live for eternity!" My hands quivered, a drop of sweat dropped ~~on~~ **[onto]** my finger ~~and~~ **[, and]** there were butterflies in my stomach. In my head I thought to myself **[,]** "How am I going to get back to the shore?"

I felt the bars on the window **[:]** they were made of dry seaweed. ~~Since the~~ **[The]** dry seaweed could ~~be~~ easily ~~broken~~ **[break, but]** ~~but~~ my cellmate said that the city ~~is~~ **[was]** too deep down from the human world and the guards ~~can~~ **[could]** easily bring ~~you~~ **[me]** back. He explained that if I ~~escape~~ **[escaped,]** ~~I~~ **[I'd]** ~~would~~ have to get out of the bubble ~~but~~ **[, but]** the bubble was 50 ~~m~~ **[metres]** down ~~so~~ **[, so]** I wouldn't have enough air. I was hopeless, but my cellmate agreed to help me escape. His name was Finn. I could see the beautiful underwater city through the window from the old ~~terrifying~~ **[, terrifying]** prison. The sweet taste of freedom would soon be coming ~~or~~ **[—or]** would it **[?]**

#3 His plan was to get something to defend ourselves ~~or~~ **[with or to]** attack ~~like~~ **[with, like]** a fork ~~and~~ **[, and]** then break the bars and jump out like a gymnast. He told me to go straight to the emergency

oxygen tanks for fish that go above the water at the centre of the city. After that I ~~can~~ **[could]** safely ~~go~~ **[return to]** back to the surface. We began the plan by breaking the bars **[. We]** ~~we~~ quietly jumped out ~~but~~ **[, but]** the guards still caught us. I could hear their feet pounding towards us as we raced towards the city centre. Although we ran as fast as we could, one of them still caught up to us and slashed a sword at me ~~and~~ **[. I]** I thought fast ~~I~~ **[and]** used my fork and blocked it.

We safely made it to the centre of the city. I got the oxygen tank. We looked outside **[and saw]** ~~We saw~~ crowds of guards. We instantly fled ~~dodging~~ **[, dodging]** all the guards like they were still trees. I put on the oxygen tank as Finn and I ran towards the big blue bubble that was bulging out. We made it. We escaped the bubble. We swam out. Finn left to his fish family ~~and~~ **[, and]** I glided upwards to the shore. As I got out ~~the~~ **[of the]** water ~~I~~ **[, I]** could see the shiny sunlight slowly fading away.