

Section 1:

#1 "Just before I was assigned a buddy, my stomach lurched. This was going to be hard, I thought."

Strengths: Your use of the phrase "my stomach lurched" effectively shows your nervousness through a physical sensation. The short sentence "This was going to be hard, I thought" creates good tension.

Rushed transition into the main event → Your piece moves very quickly from feeling nervous to meeting Bob without giving us time to experience that before moment fully. You've only included two sentences for the entire "before" section, but the task asks for a micromoment—a small, detailed snapshot. Try expanding this part to show us more about what you saw, heard, or felt whilst waiting. For example: *Just before I was assigned a buddy, my stomach lurched as I watched the kindy students line up near the gate. Their excited chatter filled the air, and I wiped my sweaty palms on my shorts, wondering if I'd be able to keep my buddy safe.*

#2 "'Don't chase it! A car is coming, Bob!' I yelled, but it was no use. Bob kept running fast towards the balloon just as a white Toyota sped on the road and was going to hit him."

Strengths: This section creates strong drama and tension. Your dialogue shows urgency and care for Bob's safety.

Confusing sequence of events → The action here happens so quickly that it's hard to picture exactly what occurred. Did Bob run onto the road before you yelled? Was he already on the road when the car appeared? The order of events isn't quite clear. Also, your final sentence has a major problem: "Lucky that Bob was fast enough to be hit by the car!" This actually says the opposite of what you mean—you're saying it was lucky he WAS hit, when you mean he WASN'T hit. For example: *'Don't chase it! A car is coming, Bob!' I yelled as he stepped off the footpath. My heart pounded as a white Toyota sped closer, the driver not seeing the small figure darting towards the gutter.*

#3 "I rushed over to check if he was hurt. He told me he thought he was going to stop moving, but I think he means he would be paralysed by fear."

Strengths: You've shown concern for Bob by rushing to check on him, which demonstrates your caring nature as a crossing buddy.

Vague and underdeveloped reflection → Your piece ends quite abruptly without a proper reflective ending that sums up what you learned from this experience. The diary entry asks you to reflect on what

being a crossing buddy taught you, but instead, you simply say "the day was soon over in the blink of an eye." What did you learn about responsibility? About staying calm in scary situations? About the importance of safety rules? Your reflection needs to connect back to the frightening experience and explain how it changed your thinking.

■ Your piece tells an exciting and dramatic story that certainly captures attention. You've attempted to include the required elements—micromoments, dialogue, and sensory details—though they need further development. The main challenge with your writing is that it rushes through events without giving readers time to experience each moment fully. The "before" section is only two sentences long when it should be a detailed micromoment showing your feelings and surroundings. Additionally, the dangerous situation with Bob and the car, whilst dramatic, feels unrealistic for a crossing buddy scenario and distracts from the actual learning experience of helping a younger student cross safely. A more believable challenge—perhaps Bob being nervous, dropping something, or asking worried questions—would make your piece feel more genuine. Your sentence "Lucky that Bob was fast enough to be hit by the car!" contains a critical error that completely reverses your meaning, so careful proofreading is essential. The piece also lacks varied sentence lengths; most of your sentences are medium-length, which creates a monotonous rhythm. Try mixing very short sentences (for impact) with longer, flowing ones (for description). Your sensory details are quite limited—you mention Bob's appearance but not much about sounds, smells, or textures during the walk. Most importantly, your piece is missing a proper reflective ending. The task specifically asks you to sum up what you learned from being a crossing buddy, but your diary entry just says the day ended quickly. Think deeply about what this experience taught you about responsibility, safety, or helping others, and express that in your final paragraph.

Score: 39/50

Section 2:

~~THURSDAY~~ [THURSDAY]

Dear Diary,

~~today~~ [Today] I was a 'crossing buddy', which basically means that I, now a ~~year six~~ [Year Six] student, had to cross the road with a ~~kindy~~ [kindergarten] student [on] the exact day it was their one hundredth

day at public school. #1 Just before I was assigned a buddy, my stomach lurched. This was going to be hard, I thought.

"Jason? Your buddy is Bob," Mrs Adams told me, as she pointed to a 120cm child with a bright red bag and a yellow balloon with a happy face drawn on with a whiteboard marker. He was smiling back at me with black hair, yellow skin [and a hat as black as coal.

#2 I told him to just keep calm and cross the road, but as he listened [he let go of his balloon.

"Don't chase it! A car is coming, Bob!" I yelled, but it was no use. Bob kept running fast towards the balloon just as a white Toyota sped on the road and was going to hit him. I gulped. The driver would not see him as he was short enough to not be seen, I thought. I was right [—] the car kept moving – faster and faster. Bob finally noticed [and ran towardlike never before, [me as fast as he could] ~~and I thought he still was going to get hit, but~~ [I thought he was still going to get hit, but] Bob, this speedy kid, actually managed to just miss being hit by the car. What a risky cross!#3 I rushed over to check if he was hurt. He told me he thought he was going to stop moving, but I think he means he would be paralysed by fear. I told my class later on, and everyone was shocked. ~~Lucky that Bob was fast enough to be hit by the car!~~ [Luckily, Bob was fast enough to avoid being hit by the car!] The rest of my day was pretty normal, and the day was soon over in the blink of an eye.