
Term 4 – 2025: Week 4 Writing Homework | Year 5 Scholarship

Section 1

#1: "I was cornered. Nowhere to run. Brick wall behind me. Four people ganging up. Blacking out. 30 Mins before"

Strengths: Your opening creates immediate tension through short, punchy sentences that grab the reader's attention. The fragmented structure effectively conveys panic and urgency.

→ **Abrupt structural transition** Your piece shifts suddenly from the climax to a flashback without clear signposting. When you jump from "Blacking out" to "30 Mins before," readers feel disoriented because there's no bridge between these moments. Consider using a clearer transition or formatting to help readers understand the shift in time.

Exemplar: *"Blacking out. / 30 minutes earlier / It was early in the morning..." or "Blacking out. But how did I get here? Thirty minutes before..."*

#2: "When the fog cleared it was clean no graffiti no sticks or leaves. it was clean, almost too clean to be normal. I was walking through walking to the park then realized that one stick, one singular stick in the middle of the park with a plastic bag right next to it, white substance inside."

Strengths: Your piece builds suspense through specific, concrete details like the single stick and white substance, which create mystery and unease effectively.

→ **Unclear sentence construction and repetition** Your sentences become tangled here, making them hard to follow. You repeat "it was clean" twice and say "I was walking through walking to the park," which feels clumsy. These repetitions distract from your strong imagery.

Exemplar: *"When the fog cleared, the park was pristine—no graffiti, no sticks, no leaves. Almost too clean. Then I noticed it: a single stick in the middle of the grass, a white plastic bag beside it, filled with something unidentifiable."*

#3: "'I'm new here I thought this was the town park.' I choked out. They said nothing. Two of them left I knew this was my chance I had to run but how it was just not physically possible. Two big men cornering me the other two not far away. I was simply domed."

Strengths: Your piece captures the protagonist's desperation through fragmented thoughts and pacing. The word "domed" conveys hopelessness vividly.

→ **Run-on sentences without proper punctuation** Your piece strings together multiple thoughts without commas or full stops, making it difficult to read. "Two of them left I knew this was my chance I had to run but how it was just not physically possible" is actually four separate ideas crammed together.

Exemplar: *"Two of them left. I knew this was my chance—I had to run. But my body wouldn't obey. Two big men cornered me, and the other two remained close by."*

■ Your piece demonstrates real potential in creating tension and fear. You've chosen strong sensory details and shown genuine understanding of how to build suspense. However, your writing sometimes becomes hard to follow because sentences run together without proper punctuation, and some phrases repeat when they shouldn't. Additionally, your piece would benefit from clearer connections between ideas—readers need signposts to understand when time shifts or when your character's thoughts jump around. To strengthen your work, focus on breaking longer sentences into smaller ones where your thoughts shift, use commas and full stops deliberately to control pacing, and ensure each sentence does one job clearly. Also, revisit moments where you repeat words or phrases, as cutting these repetitions will make your writing tighter and more impactful. Your instincts for storytelling are sound; now polish the sentence-level control.

Overall Score: 38/50

Section 2

I was cornered. Nowhere to run. Brick wall behind me. Four people ganging up. Blacking out.

30 Mins before

~~It was early in the morning. I plodded up my towns forgotten park [It was early morning. I plodded up to my town's forgotten park], I couldn't see anything the mist was covering it [I couldn't see anything; the mist was covering it]. I didn't know why I came here but I kept on advancing quickly towards the park [I didn't know why I'd come here, but I kept advancing quickly towards the park]. When the fog cleared it was clean no graffiti no sticks or leaves. it was clean, almost too clean to be normal [When the fog cleared, the park was spotless—no graffiti, no sticks, no leaves. It was clean, almost unnaturally so]. I was walking through walking to the park then realized that one stick, one singular stick in the middle of the park with a plastic bag right next to it, white substance inside [I was walking through the park when I noticed something: a single stick in the middle, with a white plastic bag beside it, filled with some unidentifiable substance]. I wanted to investigate but wasn't sure it seemed almost just maybe out of place [I wanted to investigate, but something felt off about it].~~

~~I heard some breathing behind me. Was I imagining it? Was it real? Four shadows fell over me I knew I was not imagining it, I spun around [I heard breathing behind me. Was I imagining it? Four shadows fell~~

over me. I knew it was real. I spun around]. ~~Nothing just two more sticks~~ [Nothing. Just two more sticks]. ~~At that point my heart was racing, I could feel sweat pouring down my face. At that point I wanted to run but I knew I had come so far that I cannot go back now~~ [My heart raced; sweat poured down my face. I wanted to run, but I'd come so far that I couldn't turn back now]. ~~I heard a crunch of leaves. Once again instincts took over and I spun around—no one~~ [I heard a crunch of leaves. My instincts took over. I spun around—no one]. ~~I kept on going I am trembling now~~ [I kept going. I was trembling now]. ~~Each step felt like I was holding up the world, hesitation hit me with each step~~ [Each step felt monumental; hesitation gripped me]. ~~Run. They're here. Have to escape. No choice. Closing in. No blacking out. Stop. Breathe~~ [Run. They're here. I have to escape. No choice. Closing in. No—blacking out. Stop. Breathe]. ~~'What are you doing in our park?' He shouted at my face so loud, I swear I felt the ground tremble~~ ['What are you doing in our park?' he shouted at my face so loudly I swear I felt the ground tremble].

~~'N n n nothing' I stammered~~ ['N-n-n-nothing,' I stammered].

~~At this point my tummy is in millions of knots~~ [My stomach twisted into knots]. ~~I prayed. Though I knew I was probably done for and does pretty much nothing else I could do~~ [I prayed, though I knew I was probably done for and prayer wouldn't help]. ~~'I'm new here I thought this was the town park.' I choked out~~ ['I'm new here. I thought this was the town park,' I choked out]. ~~They said nothing. Two of them left I knew this was my chance I had to run but how it was just not physically possible~~ [They said nothing. Two of them left. I knew this was my chance—I had to run. But my body wouldn't obey]. ~~Two big men cornering me the other two not far away~~ [Two big men cornered me; the other two remained close]. ~~I was simply doomed~~ [I was trapped]. ~~Talking my way out of it was impossible—One of them grabbed me and shouted angrily at my face and said your not new my colleague has seen you here every day in town since last year~~ [Talking my way out was impossible. One of them grabbed me and shouted angrily, saying, 'You're not new—my colleague's seen you here every day since last year']].

~~'So you guys are stalkers, wow amazing people' I said sarcastically~~ ['So you guys are stalkers? Amazing people,' I said sarcastically].

~~That didn't help my situation at all, in fact the started punching~~ [That didn't help my situation at all. In fact, they started punching]. ~~Then everything went black nothing silence I was losing conciseness~~ [Then everything went black—nothing, silence. I was losing consciousness].