

Section 1:

#1 "On my final night in Korea, I was standing by the cold window and gazing at the twinkling city lights when my thoughts went to my friends and school."

Strengths:

- You create a vivid picture using sensory details like "cold window" and "twinkling city lights" that help readers imagine the scene.
- Your sentence shows genuine emotion about leaving friends behind, which makes readers connect with your feelings.

Vague emotional expression → Your writing tells us what happened but doesn't fully show us how you felt. The phrase "my thoughts went to my friends and school" is quite general and doesn't help readers understand what you were actually thinking or feeling. Were you remembering specific moments with friends? Were you worried about particular things? Adding concrete memories or specific worries would make this moment more powerful and real for your readers.

Exemplar: *On my final night in Korea, I was standing by the cold window and gazing at the twinkling city lights, remembering how my best friend and I used to walk home together after school, laughing and sharing snacks.*

#2 "Sydney was one big different experience: pure air, vast sky, tiny houses in contrast with Seoul, and the most curious of languages everywhere."

Strengths:

- You use comparison effectively by contrasting Sydney with Seoul, which helps readers understand how different the new place felt.
- Your list of observations shows you were paying attention to your new surroundings.

Sentence structure confusion → This sentence tries to include too many ideas at once without clear connections between them. The phrase "one big different experience" is awkward, and the list that follows ("pure air, vast sky, tiny houses") feels rushed. The way you've written "the most curious of languages everywhere" doesn't quite make sense in English. Breaking this into two or three sentences and explaining each observation more fully would help readers understand exactly what surprised you about Sydney.

Exemplar: *Sydney felt completely different from Seoul. The air smelled cleaner, the sky stretched endlessly above me, and the houses seemed surprisingly small. Everywhere I went, I heard English being spoken, a language that still sounded strange and puzzling to my ears.*

#3 "However, slowly, yet surely, things improved. One day, a fellow student asked me to play soccer."

Strengths:

- You show a turning point in your story, which gives your writing a positive direction.
- The soccer invitation is a specific example that demonstrates how things got better.

Underdeveloped transition → Your writing jumps too quickly from feeling lost to things improving without explaining what happened in between. The phrase "slowly, yet surely, things improved" tells us the outcome but doesn't show us the process. What small changes happened first? How long did it take? What made each day slightly easier? Your readers need to see the gradual steps of your adjustment, not just hear that it happened. The soccer moment is good, but it would be even stronger if you showed us a few smaller moments that came before it.

Exemplar: *However, things began to improve bit by bit. At first, I could only understand a few words in class, but after two weeks, I started recognising whole sentences. My teacher noticed I enjoyed drawing and began giving me encouraging smiles. Then one day, a fellow student asked me to play soccer.*

■ Your piece tells an important story about moving to a new country, and you've included several meaningful moments that show both struggle and growth. However, your writing would benefit from slowing down and adding more detail to help readers fully experience your journey. Right now, you move through events quite quickly—you mention feeling lost, making friends, and feeling at home, but we don't see enough of the in-between moments that made these changes happen. Try expanding your paragraphs by adding specific examples: What exactly did you find confusing at school? What did your new friends say or do that made you feel welcome? Additionally, work on making your sentences clearer and easier to follow—sometimes you try to fit too many ideas into one sentence, which makes your meaning unclear. Also, consider organising your story more carefully so each paragraph focuses on one main idea rather than jumping between different thoughts.

Overall Score: 39/50

Section 2:

#1 The Biggest Moment of ~~my life~~ [My Life]

Australia is the biggest event in my life. The memory of the day when ~~Mom~~ [Mum] and Dad told me that we were leaving Seoul is very faint. ~~Exactly at that moment,~~ [At that moment,] I experienced fear and thrill simultaneously. I had never set foot in another country, and the idea of ~~relocating~~ [relocating to Australia] was ~~bringing about~~ [causing] a rapid heartbeat.

#2 On my final night in Korea, I was standing by the cold window and gazing at the twinkling city lights when my thoughts went to my friends and school. Would I be able to get along ~~or~~ [, or] would I miss home too much? The trip to Australia was really long, and I was so ~~eager~~ [excited] that I couldn't sit still.

#3 Sydney was ~~one big different experience~~ [a completely different experience]: pure air, vast sky, tiny houses in contrast with Seoul, and ~~the most curious of languages~~ [a curious language] everywhere. I felt lost. My schooling was marked by the ~~always~~ [consistently] difficult ~~relations~~ [relationships] with the teachers and the process of ~~friendship forming~~ [forming friendships]. Sometimes all I wanted was to disappear and cry. ~~If I didn't get any clue, it wouldn't make sense to come here.~~ [Without understanding anything, I wondered whether coming here made sense at all.] However, slowly, yet [but] surely, things improved.

One day, a fellow student asked me to play soccer. I was afraid but still accepted. This was the first time I had a feeling of belonging to the group. I was acquiring ~~a lot of~~ [many] new words daily ~~and~~ [, and] the teachers were very kind and patient. My family and I went ~~farther out~~ [further afield] to see more beautiful beaches and parks. We even tried some strange foods like meat pies. I made friends from many different countries and at the same time discovered new sides of my character. Australia is where I feel at home now.