

### Section 1:

**#1: Opening paragraph**"My biggest mistake is flying to South Korea to teach. The moment when I stepped through the door to the classroom circles around my mind each morning and night."

#### Strengths:

- You've created a clear hook that immediately tells your reader what the narrative will be about
- The image of a moment "circling" in your mind effectively shows how significant this experience was to you

**Inconsistent verb tense** → Your opening mixes present tense ("is flying", "circles") with past events. Since you're recounting something that has already happened, the entire piece should use past tense consistently. The phrase "I had asked questions to myself even before I had came here" also uses awkward tense construction—simple past would work better here.

**Exemplar:** *My biggest mistake was flying to South Korea to teach. The moment when I stepped through the door to that classroom circled around my mind each morning and night, even after I returned home.*

---

**#2: Airport and arrival sequence**"DING! The plane just arrived in South Korea. I took out my glimmering passport with my sweaty fingers and passed it to the employee at the desk with trembling hands."

#### Strengths:

- Your sensory details (sweaty fingers, trembling hands) help readers feel your nervousness
- The sequence of events is easy to follow

**Unclear transitions and missing detail** → Your narrative jumps too quickly between important moments. After "DING! The plane just arrived", you immediately move to passport control, then to an Uber, then to a hotel, then to an examination test—all within two sentences. Your reader needs more information about what this examination test was for and why you were taking it at the hotel. The connection between arriving as a teacher and filling in an "examination test" is confusing.

**Exemplar:** *DING! The plane touched down in South Korea. After collecting my luggage, I took out my passport with sweaty fingers and passed it to the border control officer with trembling hands. The Uber ride to my hotel felt endless. Once I reached my room and slumped down onto the fluffy chair, I began filling in the first part of my teaching qualification exam, which I needed to complete before starting work.*

---

**#3: Confrontation with students**"Then someone started to giggle and soon enough, everyone was falling off the chairs laughing at my appearance. I was mad then I had to shout at them and end in the principal's office."

**Strengths:**

- You've shown the escalation from one giggle to the whole class laughing, which creates a vivid scene
- The situation clearly illustrates why this was a difficult experience

**Underdeveloped emotional response** → This is the key moment of your story, but you've rushed through it. Why were the students laughing at your appearance? What exactly happened when you shouted? How did you end up in the principal's office—did the principal call you there, or did you go yourself? The phrase "I was mad then I had to shout" is too brief and doesn't help your reader understand your feelings or choices. You also mention "snatching my hands right out of my mittens" when the high schoolers mock you, but this action doesn't make sense and feels disconnected from the situation.

**Exemplar:** *Then someone started to giggle, and soon enough, everyone was falling off their chairs laughing at my appearance. I felt my face grow hot with anger and embarrassment. I raised my voice and demanded silence, but this only made things worse. Within minutes, I was called to the principal's office to explain why my first lesson had descended into chaos.*

---

■ Your piece shows a genuine personal experience with some effective sensory details, but it needs more depth in its most important moments. The opening and closing are quite brief, whilst the middle sections rush through significant events without enough explanation. Your reader needs to understand not just what happened, but why these events mattered to you and what you learned from them. Additionally, your piece would benefit from expanding the resolution—after the boys are suspended, you simply fly home and that's the end. What did this experience teach you? How did it change you? Also, your piece jumps between scenes without smooth connections, which makes the story feel choppy. Try adding sentences that bridge one event to the next, such as explaining how you felt during the flight home or what you thought about during your week of reflection at the beach.

---

**Score: 40/50**

---

**Section 2:**

The Biggest Mistake ~~Of~~ of My Life

My biggest mistake ~~is flying~~ was flying to South Korea to teach. The moment when I stepped through the door to the classroom ~~circles~~ circled around my mind each morning and night. I had asked ~~questions to~~

questions of myself even before I ~~had came~~ came here there. This was a ~~total-disastrous~~ totally disastrous moment I ~~had~~ soon regretted.

#1 It was a very pushy start to the day. I had eaten my pancakes, and was ready to go with my heavy suitcase and travel bag. My dad drove me to the airport, rushing through the early traffic due to ~~the~~ his eagerness ~~of the start to the holidays~~ for the trip to begin. I looked out the window with a glum sigh. I had questioned myself once, twice, and ~~another time~~ again. ~~Is~~ Was it really worth travelling somewhere I hadn't been for years? And ~~may~~ would I really benefit from this travel experience? I decided to stay as positive as possible. It was a long trip, though, and I was sure I ~~had to~~ would miss out at school if ~~this~~ it all didn't go well.

#2 DING! The plane ~~just arrived~~ had just landed in South Korea. I took out my glimmering passport with my sweaty fingers and passed it to the employee at the desk with trembling hands. I ~~went to the uber drive~~ got into an Uber and ~~went~~ travelled all the way to the hotel, which would have been crazy expensive if I didn't have a VIP ticket. I slumped down onto the fluffy ~~chairs~~ chair and started filling in the first part of my examination test.

The next day I ~~had~~ arrived at the local school ~~I went~~ where I was to teach. Every single pair of glistening eyes ~~of the students~~ stared at me as if I was an alien that had come from a different dimension. #3 Then someone started to giggle, and soon enough, everyone was falling off ~~the~~ their chairs laughing at my appearance. I was ~~mad~~ angry, then so I ~~had to shout~~ shouted at them and ~~end~~ ended up in the principal's office. It was a tough time trying to teach these children, not to mention that I was starting to learn some Korean. After the long hours had ended, some high schoolers came to me and said, "Do you even have a good degree to teach?" ~~He~~ They were mocking me without any hesitation ~~when I snatched my hands right out of my mittens.~~

~~Now, I had practised~~ Later, I practised ~~to not to being too over-protective~~ overprotective of myself. I calmed myself down by running around the beach a few times. Every day seemed to be full of teasing, and that turned ~~to~~ into bullying. Then it just got worse. My ~~teacher~~ supervisor wanted me to stay in Korea for another week! I had to agree in order to ~~be~~ remain a teacher. She thanked me. I still couldn't believe ~~how~~ that I had to survive another week. I knew I had to stop this nonsense. I went to school the next morning. I had booked a meeting with Mr Smith (the principal) ~~At~~ at lunch to tell him what had been happening. There I waited for the clock to tick to ~~lunch~~ lunchtime. It was a hard lesson to deal with, but I managed to keep ~~on~~ going. Finally, I had the meeting with the principal. I ~~had~~ told him all about the boys who had bullied me ever since I decided to be a casual teacher for a month at this school.

The meeting went pretty well with no misunderstandings or inconveniences. The boys were suspended for such rudeness to a teacher. They were sent home with dirty teardrops falling off their mud-covered faces. I was allowed to go back home to get back on schedule after the same repetitive flight and lack of sleep. Then...PEACE!