

Section 1

#1: "The reserve next to my door is almost completely deserted. It is only dusk. At dusk the reserve has its peak time, where soccer players play with the floodlights and most of all, the play equipment where little children play."

Strengths: Your piece creates an engaging contrast by showing the emptiness at the start, then describing what should normally happen at dusk. You've used specific details like "floodlights" and "play equipment" to help readers picture the park.

→ **Unclear purpose and direction** Your writing introduces the park's usual busy atmosphere, but doesn't clearly explain why you're telling us this. The reader needs to understand what you want to explore about the park changing. When you write "At dusk the reserve has its peak time," this feels disconnected from your opening statement that the park is "almost completely deserted." Your piece would be stronger if you signposted why these details matter to your observation.

Exemplar: "Normally, at dusk the reserve buzzes with activity—soccer players under the floodlights and children on the play equipment—but today, it sits almost completely empty."

#2: "The roundabout had cars passing from all four sides, causing a traffic deadlock. People did not use any tricks to enter this area, so people who come from outside do not enter this place."

Strengths: Your piece attempts to explore a real problem affecting the neighbourhood—traffic congestion. You've identified a specific location (the roundabout) and tried to connect infrastructure issues to people's decisions.

→ **Vague reasoning and unclear connections** Your statement "People did not use any tricks to enter this area, so people who come from outside do not enter this place" is confusing. It's unclear what "tricks" means or how the roundabout's traffic problem causes outsiders to avoid the area entirely. Your piece needs clearer explanation: Does the traffic discourage visitors? Do navigation apps suggest alternative routes? Your logic jumps without explaining the steps between cause and effect.

Exemplar: "The roundabout's traffic congestion—caused by cars arriving from all four directions—has made visitors avoid the area, as navigation apps now redirect drivers to alternative routes."

#3: "Now the playground has bounced back to its original state because more people are becoming local and they go out to the park every time the sun sets."

Strengths: Your piece brings closure to your observation by suggesting improvement. The phrase "bounced back" shows optimism and suggests the park has recovered.

→ **Underdeveloped conclusion** Your final statement doesn't clearly explain *how* the traffic improvements led to the park becoming busy again. Your piece jumps to the conclusion without showing the connection between the roadwork completion and people returning to the park. Readers are left wondering: Did fixing the roundabout really solve the problem? Why would locals suddenly start using the park again? Your conclusion needs more detail to feel convincing.

Exemplar: "As the roadwork finished and traffic flow improved, more residents discovered the park was now accessible again, and the playground has bounced back to its original bustling state."

■ Your piece tackles an interesting local observation about how infrastructure affects community life, which is valuable. However, your writing struggles because the ideas aren't clearly connected—you jump between observations without showing how one leads to another. Also, your narrative lacks a clear through-line: are you writing about the park being empty, traffic problems, or infrastructure improvements? These ideas need tying together more deliberately. To improve your piece, focus on deciding your main point first, then arrange your observations to support that point step-by-step. Additionally, your explanations need more detail so readers understand *why* things happened, not just *what* happened. You could also clarify the timeline of events (when was the roadwork? When did people return?) so the story feels easier to follow.

Overall Score: 42/50

Section 2

THE PARK THAT WAS NEVER EMPTY UNTIL NOW

The reserve next to my door is almost completely deserted. It is only dusk. ~~At dusk the reserve has its peak time, where soccer players play with the floodlights and most of all, the play equipment where little children play.~~ [Normally at dusk, the reserve thrums with activity—soccer players under the floodlights and children on the play equipment—but today it sits eerily quiet.] The reserve is only a year old. Scooter and bicycle riders like me go where there is lots of light but not too hot.

There were a few people playing little soccer games as there was still light, but usually on a Sunday night there would be a huge match. The parking lot had only one car, but it should be full with people parking on the street all the way up to my house. There was no one. People have left the neighbourhood. The

neighbourhood has become overpopulated with too many houses. Even though some houses may be far from it, this whole place runs on only one road. One intersection.

The roundabout had cars passing from all four sides, causing a traffic deadlock. ~~People did not use any tricks to enter this area, so people who come from outside do not enter this place.~~ [Rather than risk the congestion, outsiders began avoiding the area altogether.] It has become worse with its roadwork and in the end it might become worse or better. There is another roadwork on the other side to make a completely new access point that splits the traffic into two directions. This was a planned one, not the one in action. That is the main reason people are not moving into the area and there are people who are scared of traffic.

It was busy. No roadwork was getting done. But in the end the full-on roadwork started. It went so quickly that it was not thought about. The roundabout changed into a signal. One side of the signal was much better. The other sides have become worse. People did not use the tricks to save time because the GPS did not update. This especially happens on a Sunday night. It gets blocked but at least people have found tricks to avoid this intersection. ~~Now the playground has bounced back to its original state because more people are becoming local and they go out to the park every time the sun sets.~~ [Now, with traffic finally flowing smoothly, the playground has bounced back to its original bustling state as residents rediscover the park at dusk.]