

CREM PUBLICATION EVALUATION SHEET

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EVALUATION SHEET

NAME: Byung Yoon
TITLE: CREM RULES

SCHOOL: RAS
WORD COUNT: 645

GRADE: 11
SCORE: 32/36

REV (4/4)

I've always longed for those coveted glimpses of shooting stars, hoping a whispered wish would allow them to shed some of their magnificent light upon me and share some of their magic. **Never had it crossed my mind that during school, under the jet blue sky,** I would discover the brightest, most magical star I'd ever had my eyes upon.

Unlike other stars, I didn't even have to try to spot this one. The first time we met, during my service club, I could hear **Karika's** giggles and feel her excited energy from across the room. The closer I got, the **brighter she seemed** to shine, especially when she turned her radiant smile my way.

Although our language barrier seemed daunting, the gap between us was quickly bridged. As we bonded over hula hoops, Pictionary, and our **favorite** Disney movies, my Indonesian, and her English, rapidly improved. She talked endlessly, and her imagination knew no bounds. **She dreamt of magic carpet rides and of visiting Elsa's frozen kingdom.** **Karika's** outlook on life and limitless creativity never failed to engage me, and her positive attitude was absolutely awe-inspiring.

Eventually, I **realized** that our time together had more significance than I'd ever imagined. She beamed pure innocence and imagination into my life, but most importantly, the more I **realized** that I'd had to tuck my inner child safely away.

I was 11 when my mother was diagnosed with breast cancer. **Although my mother's battle, when I found out, my priorities had to shift.** **My innocence was impacted by how much I had to adapt. My innocence was replaced with sudden maturity.**

I cannot help but feel that a part of my life was **lost** when my mother passed away. **After school, I picked up my brother and rushed home to help my mother with her homework. Instead of being called for dinner, I helped my mother with her homework. I learned to cook my mother's recipes, especially our favorite Kancho soup. Every day, I willingly gave up sleepovers, weekend fairs, and soccer games. I watched others live seemingly happy and carefree while I anxiously struggled, juggling so many responsibilities as I could handle.**

Yet, no matter how scared I was, I always managed a brave face. I practiced hard to mirror my mother's composure; I was determined to be one less thing on her long list of worries. Although at times, I felt helpless, I learned to focus on what I could control—being a more supportive sister and a more responsible, independent daughter—after all, **only I could work to become a better version of myself.** Learning to release what I couldn't control and refocus was a hard-won lesson, but one I carry to this day.

Fortunately, that time passed and I was able to move forward, but I took some things with me. **Not all bad, not all good. Then came Karika.** **Derived from heaven, her name means "shining star."** And for me, she was my shining light and starry guide, helping me discover pieces lost in those dark and challenging years.

My time with Karika allowed me to uncase my innocence and embrace the kid who still laughs and plays and dreams inside my heart. I no longer feel disappointed or resentful about how quickly I had to grow up. **Instead, I am grateful for the resurgence of the child inside me who eagerly anticipates everything with an open and optimistic attitude—from watching Disney movies to visiting amusement parks.** Thankfully, I never gave up hoping for my shining one, for that little bit of magic to return to me. Now, every day, I find new ways to embrace the joyful child in my heart.

Editor 1

Yet I was in school, when I least expected to, that I discovered

Reply

Delete

Editor 1

use a more specific/creative expression

Reply

Delete

Editor 2

Super, maybe adding this out-gardening Disney super, it's been overly creative or speak as well as selection right to the child's optimistic as I thought that it could be more tailored

Editor 1

maybe, instead of listing several short examples, choose a single, most memorable example (ie, a Disney movie you watched together, a Pictionary game) and explain it in more detail

Reply

Delete

Editor 2

looking & negative maybe expand on this and talk about why this joy in your heart is important (why innocence and fun are necessary)

Reply

Delete

Editor 2

again, instead of listing several shorter examples and then talking about abstract stuff ("next chapter of my life," for example), try choosing one illustrative example and explaining it in a more captivating way

Reply

Delete

Editor 2

check for accuracy. From recovered could be good to mention but here it reads like he's making this fact

Reply

Delete

Editor 1

looking & negative maybe expand on this and talk about why this joy in your heart is important (why innocence and fun are necessary)

Reply

Delete

Commentary:

This piece isn't terribly unlike the hundreds of "volunteer activity essays" a committee is likely to receive, but in its own right, this one is refreshing and interesting. The writer avoids cliché and, particularly with the use of well-chosen words, expresses her feelings toward the experience in an original fashion. The essay is concise, and well organized. It combines some measure of formality with an equal measure of informality—making the piece entirely appropriate for this type of essay and highly readable.



EVALUATION RUBRIC

	Level 4 - Advanced	Level 3 - Proficient	Level 2 - Opportunity	Level 1 - Needs Improvement
Introduction	Strong, clear thesis; makes the reader interested.	Requires clearer, more focused, or more interesting details.	Needs some work to make it on-topic and/or more engaging.	Too obvious, bland and unengaging, and/or off-topic.
Organization	Movement through ideas, topics, or concepts is smooth, comprehensible and engaging.	Requires some elaboration and/or reduction for clarity, but for the most part, flows well.	A promising start but the story can be difficult to follow and changes subjects in a way that jars the reader.	Loses focus due to overwriting or underwriting of topics.
Transitions	Smooth transitions throughout.	Most transitions are smooth; some require more thought.	Transitions do not always make sense.	No transitions and/or wrong transitions used consistently/frequently.
Voice	Voice is clear and distinct. Paper evokes thought and emotion, is well-written and sophisticated.	Personality and style are present in the work and effort was clearly put into the piece.	Shows some effort in voice and distinct style but more effort is required to make the style unique.	Voice is not present in the piece. Work is required to bring some personality and life into the story.
Word Choice	Rich wording used in a thoughtful and interesting manner.	Word choice could be more specific and varied.	Words need to be more specific, engaging and/or relevant.	Word choice is too simplistic and repetitive.
Use of Language	Unique, sophisticated, and interesting; varied language throughout.	For the most part, language is strong with appropriate word choice and some variation.	Language is repetitive and has considerable room for improvement.	Language is confusing, simplistic, and/or repetitive.
Audience Engagement	Maintains reader engagement throughout.	Thoughtful and provoking with a few sections that could be more concise in details.	Confusing, lacking in details, and/or over explained storytelling.	Content is not interesting or unique enough to engage reader.
Sensory Details	Rich in sensory engagement (sound, taste, touch, feel, etc.). Story creates an environment that brings the reader into the story without overloading the senses.	Strong details are present and enjoyable, but too many/too few are used in certain places, at times slowing the pace or making the piece choppy to read.	Too few/too many details or use of clichés that bog the piece down with unnecessary and uninteresting details.	Paper tells instead of shows, is lacking in sensory details, and/or uses an abundance of clichés.
Conclusion	Well crafted; leaves the reader with a sense of finality; wraps up the piece in a logical, satisfying manner.	Well written but does not fully satisfy; lacking in a strong summary and/or thought to end the piece.	Writing is simplistic and unimaginative; does not offer a unique and/or thoughtful and/or complete conclusion.	There is no conclusion and/or the end of the piece is confusing.

DEFINITION OF LEVELS

Level 4	Advanced	Achieves all aspects of excellent writing; technically proficient, engaging, fluent.
Level 3	Proficient	Technical aspects are strong; writing could benefit from some polish to bring it up to level 4.
Level 2	Opportunity	This is an area in which the author should focus to improve their capability.
Level 1	Needs Improvement	This is an area in which the author would benefit from additional/support coaching to dramatically improve their skills.

