Unit 1 Revision Exercise: Development

Choose one part of your essay (intro/ body paragraph/ conclusion) to develop in detail. Think about the particular incident or scene you are describing and jot down sensory details, then figure out how to incorporate them.

Before:

Playing basketball on my middle school team taught me the importance of teamwork. Everyone on a team must contribute something, with the result being greater than what you would achieve if you were working alone. When I played alongside my classmates, I had to practice hard, not only working to improve my own skills but also improving my awareness of others. The approach to teamwork is something that still benefits me today.

After:

Playing basketball at Middle School 224 taught me the importance of teamwork. If you had been standing on Brook Avenue five years ago, shivering in your coat on a pre-dawn winter morning, you would have witnessed 25 different kids arriving for daily basketball practice. While it wasn’t fun to wake up for our 6am sessions, greeting my teammates in the gym and knowing we were there to work together gave me a sense of purpose. The gym smelled like floor lacquer and offered us an escape from the cold temperatures outside. We would joke with each other that we could get to the gym in our sleep; if you arrived half-awake, you’d be jolted out of that state during warm-up drills. Everyone on a team must contribute something, with the result being greater than what you would achieve if you were working alone. Kemba was known for his jump shot, Quentin for his push crossover, Julius for his crossover dribble. And me, Ali, #34: I was known for my defense and open layup. When I played on the team, I had to practice hard, not only working to improve my own skills but also improving my awareness of others. To successfully enact a play you must know where everyone in the blur of purple and white jerseys—defense and offense—is on the court, at every second. The approach to teamwork is something that still benefits me today as a college student. Sure, one can study alone for that Bio exam, but study groups allow my classmates and me to teach each other concepts we’ve mastered, and learn about concepts that are still challenging.