

Section 1:

#1 (First paragraph): Strengths:

- Strong opening that emphasises the importance of school
- Clear thesis statement indicating your stance on later school start times

Weaknesses: Lack of depth in introduction → Your opening focuses heavily on describing school buildings rather than establishing the significance of school start times. The phrase "from small wooden buildings to massive marble structures" does not contribute to your argument about school timing.

Exemplar: *School plays a vital role in shaping young minds and future success. While many aspects of education have evolved over time, the traditional early start time of 8:30 AM remains unchanged, despite mounting evidence suggesting this may not be optimal for students' well-being and academic achievement.*

#2 (Second paragraph): Strengths:

- Good use of scientific evidence with the UQ study
- Effective use of personal example to support your argument

Weaknesses: Underdeveloped evidence → Your reference to "a friend" gaining height during holidays needs more detail to establish a clear link between sleep and growth. The phrase "attributed to sufficient sleep" requires stronger supporting evidence.

Exemplar: *Research from the University of Queensland's Department of Health demonstrates that inadequate sleep significantly impacts student growth. In my own class, students who reported getting more sleep during holidays showed marked improvements in both physical health and academic performance.*

#3 (Fourth paragraph): Strengths:

- Good attempt at addressing multiple stakeholders
- Personal anecdote about your mother adds credibility

Weaknesses: Weak logical connection → Your mother's pay raise seems loosely connected to school start times. The phrase "since I started to do my homework by myself" doesn't clearly relate to school start times.

Exemplar: *Later school start times would benefit working parents, particularly those on night shifts. This adjustment would allow parents to better align their sleep schedules with their children's routines, leading to improved work performance and family well-being.*

■ Your writing presents a compelling argument but needs more depth in each point. Consider expanding your evidence beyond personal examples to include more specific research findings. Your paragraphs could be longer with detailed explanations of how later start times specifically benefit student health, academic performance, and family life. Try to make stronger connections between your examples and your main argument.

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**Score: 43/50**

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Section 2:

Should school start late?

School. This is a vital part of life that shapes your future. Over the years, the school has evolved dramatically, from small wooden buildings to massive marble structures. However, school tends to start from around 8:30am to 3pm. But is the starting time too early, or the finish time too late? Well, today I will prove to you why school should start later, and how it can significantly benefit children's lives. #1

To begin with, it is important to recognise that students, being in their growing years, require good amounts of rest and sleep to support their growth and overall health. A study conducted by the Department of Health at the University of Queensland indicates that children need at least 10 hours of sleep per day. However, many students are not achieving this criterion, which heavily affects their development and well-being. For instance, a friend of mine experienced a growth increase of 6 centimetres during the holidays, attributed to sufficient sleep. By changing school start times to 9:30 or 10:00 am, schools can ensure that their students get the rest they need to grow, stay healthy, and thrive. #2

Furthermore, students who do not get sufficient sleep often feel tired during school hours. This is a significant concern because fatigue can have a negative impact on their learning and ~~negatively impact~~ ~~impact~~ [affect] their performance on assessments. Picture this, ~~you are~~ [imagine being] an exhausted student facing a test early in the morning after a bad night. Drained ~~with~~ [of] energy, thinking clearly becomes a challenge, leading to a decline in academic performance. Many of my peers have shared similar experiences, and are not very happy about the situation. Changing when school starts could greatly benefit children, as they would feel less tired and thereby be able to perform at their full potential during tests.

Last but not least, a later school start time can benefit both children and their parents. Parents working night shifts often struggle to wake up early, and a later start could allow them more sleep, boosting their energy and productivity. For instance, my mother's earlier bedtime, since I started to do my homework by myself, led to her receiving a pay raise, due to her newfound energy. This clearly shows that a later start to school can benefit everyone. #3

In conclusion, I strongly believe school should be later, as it causes students to become more healthy, makes sure they aren't tired in class and can not only give students more rest but parents too. Therefore, I believe school should start later.