

Section 1:

#1: (First paragraph) Strengths:

- Strong opening with a vivid description that captures attention
- Clear thesis statement about smartphones' negative impact

Weaknesses: Limited Development of Ideas → Your opening relies heavily on dramatic imagery without building a logical foundation. Your phrases like "like zombies in the human world" and "getting dumber and dumber" need deeper explanation to be truly persuasive.

Exemplar: ***Instead of simply stating that smartphones make us "dumber," you could write: "Smartphones are reshaping our behaviour in concerning ways, from reducing our ability to think deeply to weakening our real-world connections."***

#2: (Second paragraph) Strengths:

- Good comparison between past and present learning methods
- Clear topic sentence that introduces the main idea

Weaknesses: Unsupported Claims → Your writing makes broad statements without proper backing. When you say "no book reading involved," and "What have I learnt?", you need to show specific ways modern research methods affect learning.

Exemplar: ***"While digital research offers quick answers, it often prevents us from developing crucial skills like analysing information and forming our own conclusions."***

#3: (Fourth paragraph) Strengths:

- Effective use of relatable examples
- Good emotional appeal about children's wellbeing

Weaknesses: Overemphasis on Extremes → Your writing uses too many extreme statements like "causing their brains to rot" and "mortal enemy." These weaken your argument by seeming unreasonable.

Exemplar: ***"The constant presence of smartphones in our daily routines has led to concerning behavioural changes, particularly in how we manage our time and attention."***

■ Your persuasive piece shows passion about an important topic, but needs stronger development of ideas to truly convince readers. You could improve the second paragraph by showing specific examples of how digital learning affects understanding. Additionally, your third paragraph about social skills would be more persuasive if you included real-life situations showing the impact of reduced face-to-face communication. Your conclusion needs to offer practical solutions instead of just stating problems. You should also tone down extreme language throughout your piece to make your arguments more believable. Try to balance your emotional appeals with logical reasoning to make your writing more persuasive. Your piece would benefit from clearer links between paragraphs to help your ideas flow better. Focus on developing each point fully before moving to the next one.

---

**Score: 41/50**

---

## Section 2:

Imagine a world where no one talks. People are consumed by their screens, as if their eyes have been stuck onto them, like zombies in the human world. ~~The only friends you have are virtual, and you don't even know what they look like.~~ [Many of our friendships have become virtual connections with people we may never meet face-to-face.] #1 ~~So the question is, are smartphones making us dumber?~~ [Are smartphones diminishing our cognitive abilities?] The answer is yes. Smartphones are a huge threat to the world today, with many technological advancements, ~~day by day, people scrolling on their phones, getting dumber and dumber~~ [as people spend increasing hours scrolling through their phones, potentially compromising their intellectual growth], Students, adults, even young kids and you! This is our call to stop using smartphones immediately before it is too late.

#2 Before the 2000s, research was done using books and the brain. Schoolwork was completely a test of smartness and diligence. To get good grades, you had to search tirelessly for the right information, find the right books and read. Through that process, the amount of information that you had learnt was breathtaking. ~~Nowadays? Some school work is just a question of 'Are you even bothered?'~~ [In contrast, modern schoolwork often lacks the same rigour], for all you have to do is google some questions, read up a few websites, and BOOM!, done, no book reading involved, you can even just copy and paste! Macquarie neuroscientist Professor Mark Williams says "There's lots of evidence showing that the information you learn on a digital device, doesn't get retained very well and isn't transferred across to the real world" After graduating school, you ask yourself the question 'What have I learnt?' Perhaps you have learnt that  $1 + 1 = 2$ , or maybe just 'How to use Google and cheat through my school life'. The handful of people who do their research these days are considered 'Smart and dedicated' but before, it was just 'normal'.

Second, as the use of smartphones in the 21st century increases, our social skills decrease. On our free days, instead of going to the gym to lose weight, or hanging out with friends, we pick up our phone and scroll endlessly. Even though that might satisfy us now and cause a few laughs, we will gain nothing. We lose our ability to communicate with other people well and our time with them decreases. All we want to do is look at your smartphone! You talk through your fingers, not your mouth. The part about being a human by coming together as a group will disappear. Without that, are we even human anymore?

#3 Lastly, addiction. How many times have you woken up and been tempted to just look at your smartphone? Just the fact that the first thing we think of each day is our smartphone showcases just how addicted we are. ~~You think 'I'll just look at my phone for 5 minutes before getting started on my assignment' and before you know it, 5 hours have passed!~~ [What begins as a quick five-minute check of your phone often extends into hours of mindless scrolling, derailing your planned activities.] Smartphones are a burden for us, a mortal enemy, even if we don't think of them as one. Furthermore, innocent, young kids who are born in this generation are being exposed to harmful screens and technology, causing their brains to rot at such a young age! Moreover, This exposure to technology is causing our kids' tender minds to be open to scamming and cyberbullying, causing depression and loss of money. Our poor children have done nothing wrong, but with constant bullying through screens, their mental health is rapidly decreasing. With this continuing, our next generation is not looking too good!

So, think again, are Smartphones really good for Human society? Or are they just making us dumber? With the chaos this technology is causing, we are lazy, antisocial, unfit, addicted, scammed, and the list goes on! We need to put a stop to the smartphone's reign and be more responsible with the use of technological devices. Smartphones are really making us dumber and they are a huge threat to human society.