

01-

Section 1:

#1 (First paragraph): Strengths:

- Vivid sensory descriptions create a powerful dystopian image
- Strong emotional appeal through descriptive language

Weaknesses: Unclear focus → Your opening paragraph jumps between describing a hypothetical world and introducing the topic of humanitarian aid. The transition "Despite being a timeless tradition" doesn't flow naturally from your scenario. Many phrases like "the distinctive sourness of cigarette ash" don't directly link to your main argument about humanitarian aid.

Exemplar: ***In a world without humanitarian aid, countless lives would be lost to conflict and poverty. Streets filled with rubble and the sounds of warfare would become commonplace, while basic human needs go unmet.***

#2 (Second paragraph): Strengths:

- Good historical context about warfare
- Interesting comparison to nature and animals

Weaknesses: Underdeveloped ideas → Your paragraph introduces many different examples but doesn't fully explain how they connect to humanitarian aid. The jump from ant wars to human conflicts needs clearer linking. Your question "How do you get through it?" comes suddenly without proper build-up.

Exemplar: ***Throughout history, warfare has been constant in both human and natural worlds. Just as nations fight for resources and power, even tiny creatures like ants wage their own battles. This shows why humanitarian aid is so crucial - it helps those caught in these endless conflicts survive.***

#3 (Third paragraph): Strengths:

- Clear connection between economic aid and equality
- Good real-world application

Weaknesses: Rushed development → Your discussion of modern slavery and economic inequality feels rushed. You mention "slave-like conditions" but don't give clear examples of how humanitarian aid helps solve this problem.

Exemplar: *Workers in poor countries often face harsh conditions because their nations lack resources. When richer countries provide aid, it helps improve working conditions by giving these nations money for better wages and safer workplaces.*

■ Your piece shows promise in addressing an important topic, but needs more focus and development. Start by tightening your opening paragraph to clearly introduce humanitarian aid as your main topic. Also, when you discuss historical examples, make sure to explain how each one supports your argument about aid. Your paragraphs about economic aid could be stronger if you showed clear examples of how aid helps people. Try to make smoother transitions between your ideas, especially when moving from your dystopian scenario to your main arguments. You could also make your ending stronger by summarising your main points about why humanitarian aid matters.

Score: 42/50

Section 2:

#1 In a different world, everything is a dilapidated mess. The streets reek of the distinctive sourness of cigarette ash, the timeless ruins of monuments and homes ~~a flaming pile of~~ [lie in piles of] rubble. The dying and starving scream over the pitter-pattering of heavy machine-guns and the faint crackling of fire rules the streets. Yet the world looks on without giving a second thought, the idea of helping them outrageous. This is the world if humanitarian and financial aid never existed—A [a] destroyed wasteland of the dead. ~~Despite being a timeless tradition, it is being called into question.~~

#2 Throughout history and likely into the future, war has remained an unavoidable part of life itself. ~~Humans have been warring over and over,~~ [Humans have fought countless wars] under leaders like the Romans, the Carthaginians, Greeks, the Kaiser, Germans, British... The list goes on and on. Even in more simple beings, like ants for example, a billion-year war for supremacy by the Argentine Ant has been fought. Even on the most miniscule theatre of war cells, bacteria, and viruses battle for homes and food. ~~Someone might you may ponder the same question as I—~~ [You might wonder, as I do-] How do you get through it? One option (And very common one) is humanitarian aid. The concept works with countries giving economic and agricultural (food) support to organisations like The Red Cross and shipping it over to the country being invaded. It

gets victims of war relief and nutrition and maintains basic human rights. If we were to get rid of this important part of war relief ~~than~~ [then] it would leave a massive hole in humanitarian rights and will almost definitely cost us millions of lives, whoever they may be.

There are many different aspects of the great importance of humanitarian aid, and we'll be getting onto the effects it has on equality of nature.

#3 In the status quo of modern-day society, the idea of slavery and success based ~~by~~ [on] social status seems like a dystopian idea. It was centuries since the last major country declared emancipation. Yet desperate workers in countries far away are working in slave-like conditions and still do suffer inequality in work because of their country's lack of economic support. Many poorer indebted countries have little to no money and cash flow, and in other words, their economy is ~~chaos~~[chaotic]. With financial aid, richer countries whose dollars are worth more and have more natural resources give a cut of their stuff to the poor country. This has many effects. The new money doesn't get bogged down by inflation because of the currency difference and when it's injected into people's pockets, they begin getting more money for basic needs like food and education, both of which can determine whether or not they will be treated different to others in society.

These are two reasons ~~of~~ [why] humanitarian aid should continue, for yours, for our, and for everyone's sake. Do we want a world where wars become more bearable? Where the gap in equality can be patched over? Where we can sleep safely knowing the global community looks out for each other? If yes to those questions, then you like humanitarian aid. It is one of those most successful pieces of golden kindness to continue to this day, and it is unquestionably vital to keep it that way.

But until then, it's out from the Critical Headline Times, and we'll see you on the next one!

02-

Section 1:

#1 (First paragraph): Strengths:

- Strong opening hook using second-person perspective to engage readers
- Effective use of descriptive language to create a relatable scenario

Weaknesses: Underdeveloped argument → Your opening paragraph introduces the topic but doesn't clearly state your position. The transition from describing morning tiredness to questioning school times feels rushed. Your phrases like "that's the question we're here to ponder" could be more assertive for a persuasive piece.

Exemplar: *As students across the country struggle with early morning wake-up calls, it's clear that pushing back school start times would dramatically improve both our wellbeing and academic success.*

#2 (Sleep functions list): Strengths:

- Clear organisation of key points
- Direct connection between sleep and physical health

Weaknesses: Limited elaboration → Your list presents important points but doesn't fully explore their significance. The brief statements like "lets cells repair" need more detail to convince readers. Your points would be more persuasive with specific examples of how each function affects students.

Exemplar: *Sleep allows our bodies to repair damaged cells and build new ones, which is crucial for growing students who need this restoration time to stay healthy and alert in class.*

#3 (Final two paragraphs): Strengths:

- Strong emotional appeal
- Clear call to action

Weaknesses: Incomplete development → Your conclusion rushes through important points without fully exploring them. Phrases like "plethora of reasons" promise more content but don't deliver. Your ending needs stronger evidence to support the urgency of your argument.

Exemplar: *The negative effects of early school times go far beyond morning drowsiness - they impact students' mental health, academic performance, and physical wellbeing, making this change essential for our education system.*

■ Your persuasive piece shows promise in addressing an important issue that affects many students. You've created a relatable tone that draws readers in, especially in your opening paragraph. To strengthen your argument, focus on developing each point more thoroughly. Take your second paragraph about sleep functions and expand on how each function specifically affects students' learning ability. Additionally, your final paragraphs need more specific examples of how later school times would benefit students. Also, consider adding more emotional appeals throughout your piece to make your argument more compelling. Your conclusion could be stronger by revisiting your main points and ending with a more powerful call to action that motivates readers to support this change.

Score: 39/50

Section 2:

~~You're very tired. No. Exerueciatingly tired,~~ [You are excruciatingly tired,] but that battering crescendo of that annoying alarm clock has ~~once again, and like every other day,~~ [once again] pulled you to another tedious day at school. #1 You feel like you always want to go ~~sleep~~ [to sleep]. The tiredness keeps dragging you down like the nuisance it is. You groan and ponder why the school time can't be pushed back a notch. Well, that's the question we're here to ponder. Should we push the school opening times back? Well, the answer is a resounding yes and let us take you on a journey into the reasons.

#2 Sleep is one of the factors that heavily influence our lives. Sleep does many things, and a brief list of some of its functions is:

1. Lets cells repair.
2. Gives neurons times to rest and regenerate, letting you feel fresh in the morning.
3. Boosts your immune system by not causing unnecessary resource-draining actions.

Those are the main functions of sleep, and as you can imagine, they are all vital for your survival. Sleep deprived students and adults all find it harder to work or study when their body needs this rest. It is unhealthy to live this way, let alone as children who are more susceptible to diseases and malnutrition. If the cycle was pushed back, it would give children time to regenerate and feel well rested in the morning, and guess what effect that would have- Being better at learning!

#3 ~~Being well rested by pushing back school times would benefit the child more for a plethora of reasons,~~ [Pushing back school times would benefit children in numerous ways,] and as children begin to grow up the importance of this happening cannot be overstated.

The small annoyance in the morning can become quite significant, and it is up to those who can to stop this.