

□ WRITING PIECE 1 - FEEDBACK

Section 1:

#1 (Introduction paragraph) Strengths:

- Strong emotional appeal using vivid imagery of living conditions
- Clear thesis statement about rich countries helping poor nations

Weaknesses: Underdeveloped Opening → Your opening relies heavily on emotional scenarios without providing concrete context. Phrases like "dirty, dangerous and impoverished nation" and "struggling to fill one's stomach" paint a picture but need more depth about why these conditions exist.

Exemplar: *"In many developing nations, families face daily struggles for basic necessities like clean water and food, while wealthy countries enjoy abundance - a stark contrast that highlights why assistance from rich nations is crucial."*

#2 (Second paragraph) Strengths:

- Good attempt at explaining economic disparity
- Links poverty to broader social issues

Weaknesses: Limited Development → Your paragraph mentions robberies and job scarcity but doesn't fully explore how these connect to international aid. The phrase "much harder to get a well paying job" needs more detail about specific challenges poor nations face.

Exemplar: *"Poor nations often lack basic infrastructure and job opportunities, leading to widespread unemployment. Without proper support systems, citizens struggle to meet their basic needs, creating a cycle of poverty that international aid could help break."*

#3 (Fourth paragraph) Strengths:

- Effective use of contrast between wealth and poverty
- Practical examples of how money could be better used

Weaknesses: Unclear Solutions → Your comparison of "expensive chocolates" to helping poor citizens needs more specific details about how aid would work. The example about "chickens for their farm" is good but requires more development.

Exemplar: *"While wealthy nations spend millions on luxury items, even a small portion of this money could fund essential programmes in poor countries, such as farming initiatives or clean water projects that would help communities become self-sufficient."*

■ Your persuasive piece shows promise but needs more depth in several areas. You should focus on strengthening your first paragraph by adding more specific examples of struggles in poor nations. Also, in your second paragraph, try to better explain how international aid could directly address the problems you mention. Additionally, your fourth paragraph would benefit from more detailed examples of how rich countries' resources could help poor nations develop. Your conclusion could be stronger by adding specific ways that helping poor nations benefits everyone. Remember to use more linking words between your ideas to make your writing flow better. Try to give more real-world examples throughout your piece to make your arguments more convincing.

Score: 41/50

Section 2:

Should Rich Countries Be Required to Help Poorer Nations?

~~#1 Picture this, you live in a dirty, dangerous and impoverished nation where struggling to fill one's stomach is normal and everyday you must work endlessly just to make enough money to eat a meagre dinner and feed your children while in other countries people are living lavishly in mansions and eating feasts.~~ [Imagine living in a dirty, dangerous and impoverished nation where struggling to fill one's stomach is normal, and every day you must work endlessly just to make enough money to eat a meagre dinner and feed your children, while in other countries people live lavishly in mansions and feast daily.] This would be horrible to have to live through but in many poor countries this is actually a reality. So to fix this, rich countries should be required to help poorer countries. Some reasons to do this are that poor countries suffer regularly, it will decrease the margin between rich and poor and rich countries already have more than enough money.

#2 Firstly, rich countries should definitely be required to help poorer nations because poorer nations suffer regularly. This is because poorer nations do not have as much money so it is much harder to get a well paying job and there may be less places to buy healthy and clean food. ~~In poorer countries, robberies are also much more frequent as these people also struggle to make money so they have to turn to stealing in order to make a living.~~ [In poorer countries, people often resort to crime because of their desperate struggle to survive, leading to more frequent robberies.]

Secondly, have you ever seen the stark contrast between a wealthy man and a ~~marginalized~~ [marginalised] one? In many different countries there is a very large gap between a rich person

and a poor person. This means that the poor will often be employed by the richer people. This is horrible because the poorer workers may be used by the richer employers and be paid an unfair amount. By requiring the richer countries to help the poorer ones then there will be less of a margin between them and the workers will not be used unfairly.

#3 Lastly, imagine seeing an extremely wealthy person spending hundreds of dollars wasting money on expensive chocolates while you struggle to even make enough money to buy dinner. Richer countries actually often have enough money already which they use on items that are unhealthy or even close to useless. This money could be put to much better use and help many poorer countries. For example, just the money spent on an unhealthy dessert could provide a much poorer citizen with a dinner or some chickens for their farm.

In conclusion, there is no doubt that rich nations should be required to help poorer nations. This is because poorer countries struggle to make enough money to survive. There is also a large gap between poor citizens and rich ones which can cause them to be used unfairly. Lastly, wealthy countries already have enough money which could help poorer nations. So it is obvious that rich nations should be required to help poorer ones.

□ WRITING PIECE 2 - FEEDBACK

Section 1:

#1 (First paragraph) Strengths:

- You've used a clear hook question to grab attention
- You've introduced your main arguments clearly

Weaknesses: Unclear reasoning → Your first paragraph jumps between ideas without properly connecting them. The phrase "Some reasons to think this are that they make us rely on it" doesn't clearly explain how this leads to becoming "dumber."

Exemplar: *Have you ever felt your thinking slow down after endless scrolling on your smartphone? Research suggests that our increasing reliance on these devices might be affecting our ability to think and solve problems independently.*

#2 (Second paragraph) Strengths:

- You've attempted to build a logical connection between reliance and reduced capability
- You've used personal experience to relate to readers

Weaknesses: Limited development → Your argument that "your body will not know what to do" needs more depth. The connection between reliance and becoming "less capable" isn't fully explained.

Exemplar: *When we constantly turn to smartphones for basic tasks like simple maths or remembering appointments, our brains lose the opportunity to practice these essential skills, making us more dependent on our devices.*

#3 (Fourth paragraph) Strengths:

- Good use of a relatable scenario about homework
- Clear link between distraction and academic performance

Weaknesses: Vague support → Your discussion about addiction needs more specific examples. The phrase "endless amount of games" doesn't fully explain how this leads to poor academic performance.

Exemplar: *The constant notifications from social media and games create an irresistible pull away from studying, leading to rushed homework completion and decreased understanding of important concepts.*

■ Your persuasive piece shows promise in identifying important concerns about smartphone use. To strengthen your argument, focus on developing deeper connections between your claims and their consequences. For instance, in your paragraph about eye strain, explain how this specifically affects learning or cognitive ability. Your piece would benefit from more concrete examples of how smartphone dependence impacts daily life. Additionally, consider addressing potential counterarguments - perhaps some ways smartphones might actually help learning. Also, try linking your paragraphs more smoothly - the transition between eye strain and study distractions feels abrupt. Your conclusion could be stronger by suggesting some solutions or actions readers can take. Remember to use more specific examples when discussing addiction and distraction.

Score: 40/50

Section 2:

Are smartphones making us dumber?

~~Have you ever felt quite sheepish or dumb after using a smartphone for too long? Well, many people believe that smartphones are actually making humans dumber. Some reasons to think this are that they make us rely on it, they hurt our eyes and they keep us from studying.~~ [Have you ever felt quite sheepish or dumb after using a smartphone for too long? Many people believe that smartphones are making humans less capable of independent thinking. This is happening through our increasing reliance on devices, their effects on our eyesight, and their impact on our study habits.] #1

~~Firstly, smartphones are definitely making us dumber since they make us rely on them. This is because after getting used to having a smartphone by your side at all times then you will begin to keep using it. Then when you do not have it your body will not know what to do since it has grown accustomed to having the convenience and accessibility of smartphones. If humans continue to rely on smartphones then we will grow less capable and therefore dumber.~~ [Firstly, our growing dependence on smartphones is affecting our ability to think independently. When we become accustomed to having a smartphone constantly available, we begin to rely on it for basic tasks. Without our devices, we struggle to perform simple activities that we once managed easily. This increasing reliance is gradually reducing our capability to function independently.] #2

Secondly, have you ever felt the sharp sting of the eyes after using any device for too long of a session? This happens because your eyes grow tired from observing the elaborate colours and the light emitted from your device. To make things worse, the smartphones are one of the smallest devices existing, causing your eyes to have to strain unhealthily so that it can read and understand

what is on your screen. This will cause you to not be able to do easy tasks so well anymore as your sight starts to slowly disintegrate.

~~Lastly, imagine trying to do your homework and then every ten seconds your phone vibrates and you are overwhelmed by the temptation to see whatever is on it. Phones can be very distracting when studying for many reasons. One is that smartphones very often start to make you addicted. This is because of the accessibility of being able to chat to your friends while being in the safety of your home and also because of the endless amount of games that you are able to play on it. This can cause people, especially children, to not be able to complete homework to the best of their ability which will eventually cause them to fail at school. Is this not becoming dumber?~~
[Lastly, picture yourself attempting homework whilst your phone constantly demands attention with endless notifications. Smartphones present significant distractions during study time, often leading to addictive behaviour. The combination of easy access to friends through messaging and countless gaming options makes it difficult to resist checking your phone. This disruption prevents students from completing their work properly, ultimately affecting their academic performance and learning capacity.] #3

In conclusion, there is no doubt that smartphones are making humans dumber. This is because they cause us to become less capable of doing normal tasks on our own. They also strain our eyes and hurt them. Lastly, they can be a very large distraction to studying, causing students to not do as well at school. So it is certain that smartphones are causing humans to become dumber.

□ WRITING PIECE 3

Section 1:

#1 (First paragraph): Strengths:

- Strong opening with a relatable scenario that hooks readers
- Good use of emotive language to engage the audience

Weaknesses: Underdeveloped main argument → Your opening paragraph presents three reasons but they lack proper development. The phrase "This shows that school should one hundred percent start later" jumps to a conclusion without building a proper foundation for your argument.

Exemplar: *Picture this: dragging yourself out of bed at five in the morning, your tired eyes struggling to stay open as you rush to make it to school. This daily struggle affects thousands of students, impacting their learning and well-being.*

#2 (Second paragraph): Strengths:

- Clear topic sentence that states the main point
- Relevant example about transport issues

Weaknesses: Limited evidence and explanation → Your paragraph mentions students being late but doesn't fully explore the impact. The phrase "may have to catch a long train or bus ride" needs more specific details about how this affects learning.

Exemplar: *Students travelling from distant areas face significant challenges, as lengthy commutes on public transport often result in tardiness, causing them to miss crucial morning lessons and fall behind in their studies.*

#3 (Fourth paragraph): Strengths:

- Good use of personal connection with readers
- Links sleep deprivation to academic performance

Weaknesses: Informal tone and lack of focus → Your writing uses casual language like "rants on and on" which weakens your argument. The example about the history lesson distracts from your main point about sleep.

Exemplar: *Due to early start times, many students struggle to maintain focus during lessons, as they fail to get their essential ten hours of sleep, directly impacting their ability to learn effectively.*

■ Your persuasive piece shows promise in addressing an important issue that affects many students. To strengthen your writing, focus on developing each argument more fully. Your first paragraph would benefit from a stronger thesis statement that clearly outlines your main points. Also, try to maintain a more formal tone throughout your piece while still keeping your engaging style. Additionally, when discussing the transport issues, include more specific examples of how lateness affects learning. Your paragraph about afternoon activities needs more supporting details to make it more convincing. Your conclusion could be stronger by adding a call to action that encourages readers to support later school start times.

Score: 40/50

Section 2:

Should school start later?

~~Picture this, you wake up at five every morning and exhaustedly pull yourself out of bed just to get to school in time. The morning bell is the commencement sound of the endless day of torture where you work endlessly~~ [The morning bell signals the beginning of another challenging day where you struggle] just to keep your eyes from drooping shut. Many students have to wake up extremely early just to get to school in time. ~~This shows that school should one hundred percent start later.~~ [This clearly demonstrates why schools should consider later start times.] Some reasons to think this are that students may not even get to school on time, there are not many things that students have to do after school and students may be tired during school hours. #1

Firstly, school should definitely start later because students may not get to school in time. This is because when schools start so early, students who live further away may have to catch a long train or bus ride which can cause them to be late. When students are late it prevents them from being able to perform their best in classwork and this can lead them to not be able to do as well in tests. #2

~~Secondly, have you ever gotten~~ [Secondly, have you ever arrived] home after school in the afternoon and realised that you have absolutely nothing at all to do? Many students actually have more activities in the morning than in the afternoon. This is just another reason that students have trouble when school starts so early in the morning. Since many students do not have much to do in the afternoon and more to do in the morning, then an obvious solution to this would be to of course start school later and end later.

~~Lastly, imagine getting to school and struggling to stay awake while the teacher rants on and on about some kind of ship that was important in the eighth, or was it eleventh, century.~~ [Finally,

imagine arriving at school and struggling to stay focused while the teacher discusses important historical events.] Since school starts so early, many students do not get their full ten hours of sleep and have to wake up extremely early just to get to school in time. This can cause the student to be on the brink of collapsing during class. Also when students are tired, they do not absorb as much of the learning as normal which can cause them to not do very well at school. #3

In conclusion, there is no doubt that school should start later. This is because many students live far away and may get to school very late. Many students also have less to do in the afternoon than in the morning as well. Lastly, many students are very tired during school because of how early they need to wake up just to get to school in time. So school should start later for sure!