# **□** WRITING PIECE 1 - FEEDBACK

#### Section 1:

#1 (First paragraph) Strengths:

- Clear stance on the topic through strong opening statement
- Good connection to UN Sustainability Goals showing broader awareness

Weaknesses: Underdeveloped Introduction  $\rightarrow$  Your opening lacks specific examples of the contrast between rich and poor nations. The phrase "better living environment" is too vague and could be more detailed to paint a clearer picture for readers.

Exemplar: "While citizens in wealthy nations enjoy access to advanced healthcare and quality education, millions in developing countries struggle daily without basic necessities like clean drinking water and proper sanitation."

#2 (Second paragraph) Strengths:

- Emotional appeal through vivid imagery of suffering
- Links poverty to future implications

Weaknesses: Limited Supporting Evidence → Your paragraph mentions "studies show" but doesn't provide any concrete examples. The phrase "drag one's future down" needs more specific details about how poverty affects people's lives.

Exemplar: "Research from the World Bank reveals that children born into poverty often face limited access to education, leading to fewer job opportunities and continued hardship for future generations."

#3 (Third paragraph) Strengths:

- Presents mutual benefits argument
- Uses specific example of port infrastructure

Weaknesses: Shallow Economic Analysis  $\rightarrow$  Your discussion of economic benefits focuses only on ports. The phrase "make heaps of money" is too casual and doesn't fully explore the economic relationship between nations.

Exemplar: "By investing in port infrastructure, wealthy nations can establish valuable trade partnerships while simultaneously helping developing countries build their economic foundation."

■ Your persuasive piece shows promise but needs deeper development of ideas. Take your third paragraph about economic benefits and add more examples beyond just ports - think about other types of infrastructure or industry partnerships. Also, your second paragraph could be stronger if you share real-life examples of how poverty affects daily life. Additionally, your environmental paragraph could explain more clearly how green energy benefits both rich and poor nations. Your conclusion feels rushed - take time to remind readers of your main points. Remember to use more formal language instead of casual phrases like "heaps of money."

**Score: 40/50** 

Section 2:

Should Rich Countries Be Required to Help Poorer Nations?

#1 In the current world, richer nations have a better living environment than poorer nations, who lack clean water, air, and proper hygiene. [While richer nations enjoy high living standards, poorer nations struggle with basic necessities like clean water, air, and proper hygiene.] Should richer nations be required to help poorer nations? It is of my strong belief that [my strong belief that] yes, it is required for richer nations to aid poorer nations buy [by] donating money and helping it [them] gain wealth to prevent poverty and to assist in completing the UN 17 Sustainability goals.

#2 As you are currently standing here, reading this article, many are suffering from poverty and a lack of basic needs. Their faces are etched with years of labour, begging for money and food, things that we take for granted. Studies show that poverty is a huge problem that can drag one's future down. [Research demonstrates how poverty severely limits opportunities and future prospects.] Also, for economic and environmental reasons, poorer countries should be assisted by richer ones.

#3 To start off, assisting poorer countries economically would not only help the poorer country, but the richer one as well! For instance, if the richer country gave in [invested] money to build ports and construct infrastructure near the ports, then they can use the ports as a trading centre to make heaps of money [generate significant revenue]! This will benefit the richer country's economy. The consequence of helping would also be better GDP for the richer country overall.

In addition, with support from richer nations, poorer nations can also turn greener, and use solar energy. After all, all nations are part of a whole when trying to solve global warming crises. Clearing landfill and cleaning rubbish so that they don't pollute the Earth can also be funded by richer nations. The environment is something for everyone to care about, yet so many poor countries cannot help it due to a lack of money. If it [this support] did not happen, then poorer countries would continue to pollute the Earth.

For these reasons, it is necessary for richer countries to support poorer nations.

#### **□ WRITING PIECE 2 - FEEDBACK**

# Section 1:

#1 [First paragraph] Strengths:

- Clear thesis statement about smartphones' negative impact on cognitive abilities
- Good introduction of main points to be discussed

Weaknesses: Underdeveloped Hook  $\rightarrow$  Your opening sentence is too general and doesn't grab the reader's attention. The phrase "In today's day and age" is overused and doesn't create interest.

Bold opening: "As millions of eyes remain glued to glowing screens, smartphones have become more than just devices - they're slowly changing how our brains work."

#2 [Second body paragraph] Strengths:

- Links blue light to sleep disruption
- Shows clear cause-and-effect relationship

Weaknesses: Limited Evidence  $\rightarrow$  Your paragraph lacks specific details to support claims. Phrases like "makes it seem like day in your body clock" need more depth.

"Research shows that exposure to smartphone screens before bedtime tricks your brain's internal clock, causing a harmful cycle of poor sleep that directly impacts your learning ability."

#3 [Third body paragraph] Strengths:

- Addresses smartphone addiction
- Makes connection to attention span

Weaknesses: Vague Claims  $\rightarrow$  Your writing uses unclear terms like "digital nonsense" and "properly function" without explaining what these mean.

"When students constantly check social media and games on their phones, they struggle to focus on longer, more meaningful learning tasks in class."

■ Your persuasive piece needs stronger support for each main point. You could improve the second paragraph by giving real examples of how students' learning is affected when they use phones in class. Also, your third paragraph could better explain how shorter attention spans hurt learning. Additionally, try adding personal examples or observations to make your arguments more believable. Your conclusion is too short - expand it by restating your main points and ending with a strong call to action about reducing phone use. Focus on making clearer links between

smartphone use and learning problems. Your piece would be more convincing if you showed exactly how blue light affects sleep using simple examples. Try adding transition words between paragraphs to help your ideas flow better.

**Score: 40/50** 

#### Section 2:

In today's day and age, smartphones are a common device that can be spotted along the streets. In this piece, I will show you how [This piece explains how] every minute used on our smartphone is decreasing our cognitive abilities. This is because it produces a blue light that can fool your brain into thinking that its [it's] daytime at night, disrupting sleep patterns, while also providing distractions when students learn in class and at home. Not only that, but smartphones can make children addicted and shorten their attention spans. #1

# I will explain all reasons listed above in more detail.

To begin with, [Firstly,] blue light, which is produced by smartphones, makes it seem like day in your body clock even if it's night, disrupting sleep patterns and making it harder to get to sleep, which can ultimately lead to a lack of sleep. A lack of sleep makes students and adults alike tired throughout the day to effectively learn or remember anything, the foundation of making us dumber. #2

In addition, smartphones are distractions that imprison children into chambers of digital nonsense, preventing them from learning in classrooms and at home. This would be a problem for these once innocent children, as their minds wouldn't be able to properly function and understand new concepts presented to them. The solution? Reducing smartphone usage so that they won't make anyone dumber.

Furthermore, smartphones are addictive, and in saying that, can make many children glued to their phones. This would have many consequences, such as having students shortening [shorten] their own attention spans without knowing it! This is because going online gives bursts of information that student's [students'] minds slowly adapt to, and once they do, the students won't be able to receive information through learning. #3

To sum up [In conclusion], smartphones are making us addicted, and, over time, our cognitive functions begin to decay.

#### **□** WRITING PIECE 3

# Section 1:

#1 (First paragraph): Strengths:

- You effectively introduce the topic and state your position clearly
- Your opening raises an important question about education timing

Weaknesses: Limited Development  $\rightarrow$  Your opening paragraph lacks specific reasons to support why later school times are needed. The phrase "along with other activities, which I will explain" is vague and doesn't give readers a clear roadmap of your arguments.

Exemplar: Starting times in schools should be delayed to enhance students' wellbeing through better sleep patterns and to provide opportunities for meaningful morning activities that enrich their education.

#2 (Second paragraph): Strengths:

- You address the biological needs of teenagers
- You connect sleep deprivation to academic performance

Weaknesses: Circular Reasoning  $\rightarrow$  Your argument about sleep times becomes repetitive when you state "Sleeping early would be a possible solution, however..." You circle back to the same point without developing new supporting ideas.

Exemplar: While some might suggest earlier bedtimes as a solution, this overlooks the natural sleep patterns of teenagers, whose bodies are biologically programmed to fall asleep later and wake up later.

#3 (Third paragraph): Strengths:

- You introduce the benefit of morning activities
- You link memory capacity to morning hours

Weaknesses: Unclear Connection  $\rightarrow$  Your discussion about memory and morning activities isn't clearly tied to your main argument. The phrase "as the waking time is not flexible at all for school" doesn't fully explain how later start times would improve participation in activities.

Exemplar: Later school start times would allow students to engage in morning activities when their minds are fresh, leading to better skill development and retention of what they practise.

■ Your persuasive piece needs stronger development of ideas and clearer connections between your points. You could improve the second paragraph by giving concrete examples of how sleep

affects learning. Also, in your third paragraph, you could explain specifically what kinds of activities students could do in the morning. Additionally, your conclusion could be stronger by restating your main points with more impact rather than just mentioning sleep and activities. Your opening paragraph would benefit from a clearer outline of your main arguments. You could also strengthen your writing by explaining why counter-arguments (like going to bed earlier) don't solve the problem. Focus on making your reasons more specific throughout your piece.

**Score: 41/50** 

Section 2:

Should School Start Later?

The next generation of humanity are [The next generation of humanity is] going to school today. Knowing the necessary qualities of the twenty-first century are now more important than ever. [Understanding what students need in the twenty-first century is more important than ever.] Understanding this, should school start later? It is of my strong belief [my strong belief] that, yes, schools should have later starting times to allow more time for extra-curricular activities and sleep, along with other activities, which I will explain. #1

To begin with, sleep is a biological need for teenagers that are [who are] currently attending school. The early start time for school restricts sleep, as it means teenagers will have to get up earlier. This would be detrimental, as teenagers require 8-10 hours of sleep, and, since most teenagers sleep late at night, it would have negative consequences. The academic performance would decrease, and so would concentration. Sleeping early would be a possible solution, however, given the sleep times of teenagers today, it would not fulfill the 8-10 hours of sleep required for a teenagers mind to function properly, given they currently average way less sleep than the required amount of sleep. #2

In addition, students can also use the opportunity to take more extracurricular activities in the morning. [Additionally, later start times would allow students to participate in more morning extracurricular activities.] Studies show that memory is better when students first wake up, and if they practice extracurricular activities in the morning, it would be helpful and anything practiced would be easy to remember. However, if that time is used for school, the children would not get to sleep until they reach a good dose of sleep before getting up, as the waking time is not flexible at all for school. #3

To conclude, schools should start later for the next generation of children. It can assist in sleep and also extracurricular activities, which are becoming more and more important as we delve into the late twenty-first century.