

## □ WRITING PIECE 1 - FEEDBACK

Section 1:

#1 (First paragraph) Strengths:

- Your opening uses powerful statistics to grab attention
- Your emotional appeal through vivid imagery creates impact

Weaknesses: Limited Development → Your opening relies heavily on emotional appeal without building a stronger foundation for your argument. The rhetorical question "How would you feel?" needs more development to connect with the overall message about rich countries helping poorer nations.

***A more effective opening could be: "Each day, thousands of people die from hunger while rich nations prosper. This stark contrast raises an important question: Do wealthy countries have a moral duty to help struggling nations? The devastating statistics and human toll make this question impossible to ignore."***

#2 (Second paragraph) Strengths:

- Your point about world peace is relevant
- Your linking of aid to positive relationships between nations shows good thinking

Weaknesses: Underdeveloped Reasoning → Your argument about peace and brotherhood needs more detail to be convincing. The connection between aid and preventing war is stated but not explained fully.

***A stronger version could be: "When wealthy nations provide aid to struggling countries, they build trust and cooperation. This support creates strong bonds between nations, making conflict less likely and fostering lasting peace."***

#3 (Fourth paragraph) Strengths:

- Your focus on human rights is compelling
- Your connection to infrastructure development shows good thinking

Weaknesses: Unclear Logic → Your argument about government focus on infrastructure needs clearer connection to how aid helps. The jump from basic needs to infrastructure isn't fully explained.

***Consider this: "Every person deserves basic necessities like food, water and healthcare. When wealthy nations help provide these basics, poorer countries can then use their limited resources to develop important infrastructure like roads and schools."***

■ Your persuasive piece has good ideas but needs deeper development. You could improve the second paragraph by giving examples of how aid prevents conflicts between nations. Also, in your third paragraph about kindness making people feel better, try linking this more clearly to why rich countries should help poor ones. Your fourth paragraph about human rights could be stronger if you explained how aid for basic needs helps poor countries grow. Try adding more details about how both rich and poor countries benefit when they work together. Your opening statistics are good but you could use them better to support your main points throughout the piece. Make your arguments clearer by explaining each point fully before moving to the next one. Remember to connect your ideas clearly using words like 'furthermore' and 'consequently'.

---

**Score: 39/50**

---

Section 2:

Should Rich Countries Be Required to Help Poorer Nations?

#1 Each day, 25,000 people, including more than 10,000 children, die from hunger and related causes. Some 854 million people worldwide are estimated to be undernourished, and high food prices may drive another 100 million into poverty and hunger. (United Nations). ~~Many of these people are from poorer countries and our help is needed. Imagine you having bones sticking out of your flesh, a starving child and a family that has no healthcare. How would you feel?~~ [These people, primarily from developing nations, desperately need assistance. Picture families struggling without food or healthcare - their suffering demands our attention and action.]

#2 ~~To start off, one~~ [Firstly, a] reason why rich countries should help the poorer ones is because it promotes world peace and brotherhood. ~~If one country is helping another, there is much less of a chance of war, giving the poorer country time to recover. It's a win for both!~~ [When nations support each other through aid, they build relationships that reduce the likelihood of conflict, allowing struggling countries to focus on recovery and development.] This leads me to my second point.

The second reason ~~on~~ [why] more well-off countries should help the poorer ones is because it will help the rich be more grateful and careful with their money. Also, according to a poll by the American Psychological Association, a large majority of people, around 89%, report feeling

better after performing an act of kindness, including giving to others, with many stating they felt "significantly better" after doing so.

~~#3 My last point on why developed nations should support poverty-stricken nations is because~~  
[Finally, developed nations should support struggling countries because] it's a human right to have food, water, shelter and basic healthcare and schools. If richer countries fund this, the government can focus ~~of~~ [on] other things like ~~road~~ [roads], public transport and other types of infrastructure, which leads to less financial strain on that country or specific region.

Due to these reasons that I have stated above, this is why richer countries should aid poorer ones, no matter the circumstances.

## □ WRITING PIECE 2 - FEEDBACK

Section 1:

#1 (First paragraph) Strengths:

- Strong opening statement that clearly states your position
- Establishes urgency by mentioning future implications

Weaknesses: Unsupported claims → Your opening makes bold predictions about suicide rates without providing clear links between smartphones and this outcome. The connection between these ideas needs more development.

Exemplar: *Smartphones are negatively impacting our generation's cognitive abilities, as shown through their effects on our learning, social interactions, and mental wellbeing.*

#2 (Social skills paragraph) Strengths:

- Good use of a specific example about train interactions
- Links to real-world situations readers can relate to

Weaknesses: Limited perspective → Your argument focuses solely on negative aspects without acknowledging how smartphones might facilitate different types of social interaction. The train example needs more detail about why face-to-face conversations are more valuable.

Exemplar: *While sitting on the train, we miss valuable opportunities to learn from others' experiences and develop crucial social skills when we choose to focus on our phones instead of engaging with those around us.*

#3 (Sleep cycle paragraph) Strengths:

- Addresses a specific health impact
- Links smartphone use to academic performance

Weaknesses: Unclear reasoning → Your discussion about brain development between specific hours needs more explanation about why this timing matters. The connection between sleep and being "stuck in academic work" isn't fully developed.

Exemplar: *Night-time smartphone use disrupts our natural sleep patterns, leaving students tired and unfocused during school hours, which directly impacts their ability to learn and retain information.*

■ Your persuasive piece shows promise in identifying important issues, but needs stronger development of ideas. You could improve the first paragraph by providing specific examples of

how smartphone use affects cognitive abilities. Also, in your second paragraph about social skills, include examples of meaningful conversations that young people miss out on. Additionally, your third point about sleep cycles would be more convincing if you explained how proper sleep directly helps learning and brain development. Your conclusion needs to acknowledge opposing viewpoints more clearly while still maintaining your position. Remember to link each paragraph back to your main argument about smartphones making people "dumber". Focus on building clearer connections between your evidence and your claims.

---

**Score: 40/50**

---

Section 2:

Are smartphones making us dumber?

~~It is obvious that smartphones are making our generation dumber. If we keep going in the direction we are, in forty years, suicide rates will soar like they are already starting to do.~~ [Smartphones are having a negative impact on our generation's cognitive development. Our continued reliance on these devices could lead to serious mental health consequences in the future.] #1

~~My first reason on why~~ [The first reason why] smartphones are making us dumber is it hinders our social skills. Instead of having a conversation ~~to~~ [with] the old man next to us on the train, we are absorbed by the screen in front of us. This not only stops us from learning social skills, it could stop us from learning lessons that the elderly ~~has~~ [have] to give. A recent study showed that 42% of teens who were on their phone lacked social skills and couldn't strike up a conversation with any age group. #2

Another reason why smartphones are making us dumber is that ~~it puts~~ [they put] ill-advised ideas in children's ~~head~~ [heads], leading to impulsive behaviours, disrespect and potentially violence. Children do not know what to believe on social media, and without a parent helping the child to navigate the ideas that it suggests, they may be led astray.

~~My third point on how~~ [The third reason why] smartphones are making us dumber is that if children are on them late at night, their sleep cycle will change, leading to fatigue and the child not developing. A study conducted suggested that between eight and twelve pm is when the brain works on getting smarter, and if children aren't sleeping in that time frame, it may lead to the child being stuck in academic work and not being focused on school. #3

Due to the three reasons that I have stated above, this is why I agree that smartphones are making us dumber, even though we may learn from them.

## □ WRITING PIECE 3

Section 1:

#1 - First Paragraph Strengths:

- Clear introduction of the topic and stance
- Establishes purpose of informing readers

Weaknesses: Lack of Hook → Your opening fails to grab attention or create interest. Starting with "It is a very debated topic" doesn't draw readers in effectively.

***Here's a gripping way to start your piece: "Imagine waking up feeling refreshed and energised, ready to learn - this is what many claim later school starts could achieve. However, I strongly disagree."***

#2 - Third Paragraph (Reddit Example) Strengths:

- Attempts to use real-life evidence
- Links school timing to future impacts

Weaknesses: Unreliable Evidence → Your example relies on a single person's experience from Reddit, which isn't very convincing. The health issues mentioned aren't clearly linked to early rising.

***A stronger way to present this: "Medical professionals and teachers have observed that children who start their day early develop better morning routines, making them more prepared for future work life."***

#3 - Final Paragraph Strengths:

- Provides clear conclusion
- Reinforces main argument

Weaknesses: Weak Closing → Your conclusion simply restates points without leaving a lasting impression on readers. The phrase "stick to what is working" doesn't provide a compelling final thought.

***Try this instead: "For the wellbeing of our children, the success of our families, and the strength of our communities, maintaining current school start times is clearly the best choice."***

■ Your persuasive piece needs more depth in several areas. You've made good points about community activities and family schedules, but your arguments could be stronger. In your first body paragraph, you mention that children learn best in the morning - try adding examples of specific learning activities that work well in early hours. Your second paragraph about work life preparation needs more real-world examples of jobs that require early starts. Also, when discussing community impact, include more specific examples of afternoon activities that would be affected. You could improve the flow by adding linking words between paragraphs. Your conclusion would be stronger if you brought together all your main points more clearly. Remember to start each paragraph with a clear topic sentence that links to your main argument.

---

**Score: 39/50**

---

Section 2:

### **Should school start later?**

~~It is a very debated topic on if school should start later.~~ [Whether schools should start later is currently a hot topic of discussion.] Today I will be informing you on why it is not good for children to start later and some of the side effects. Let us begin. #1

My first reason on why schools shouldn't start later is that it could hinder learning. You see, children learn best in the morning, but if school started later, there would be less time for improvement and educational growth, leading to the child falling behind.

~~Additionally, it is bad for schools~~ [Furthermore, it would be detrimental for schools] to start later because it doesn't prepare the children for work life. To elaborate, many jobs start early and require you to get up at 6 am or earlier. If a child does not get used to this, they may find it hard to go to work. One person on Reddit stated that they never became used to getting up early. He simply could not biologically adapt to it because of not doing it as a child. He also said that he also experienced aching joints, a bloated stomach and cramps. #2

To finish, my last reason on why schools shouldn't start later is because it could upset the balance of daily life and make it harder for kids to participate in their communities. For example, let's say you have community sports or something else in the afternoon that you enjoy. If school started later, it would also finish later, leading to you missing out on that fun activity. It is also a hard change, because everyone's schedules would have to move around, causing conflicts and other circumstances. Another hindrance of school starting later is that parents may not be able to drop off their kids, as they will be at work.



~~Due to all these reasons that I have stated above, this is why I firmly believe~~ [Based on these compelling reasons, I strongly believe] that schools should not start later and stick to what is working for families. #3