

□ WRITING PIECE 1 - FEEDBACK

Section 1:

#1: "With the world shrinking, it has become obvious that a number of contrasts exist between rich and poor countries." Strengths:

- Your opening sentence effectively introduces the topic and sets up the contrast
- Your use of the metaphor "world shrinking" helps readers visualise globalisation

Weakness: Vague Opening → Your opening lacks a clear stance on the issue. The phrase "a number of contrasts" is too general and doesn't grab the reader's attention. You could make your position more clear from the start.

Exemplar: ***"In our increasingly interconnected world, the stark divide between wealthy and struggling nations demands immediate attention and action."***

#2: "The experience of colonization, exploitation of resources, and unequal exchange practices has left most nations in a pathetically struggling position to get up." Strengths:

- Your point about historical context is relevant
- Your writing shows good understanding of cause and effect

Weakness: Informal Language → Your use of "pathetically struggling" is too casual for a persuasive piece. The phrase "to get up" is also informal and weakens your argument.

Exemplar: ***"The devastating legacy of colonisation, resource exploitation, and unfair trade practices continues to hinder many nations' development and progress."***

#3: "Last but not least, most of the challenges we are facing climate change, pandemics, and international security are borderless." Strengths:

- Your point about global challenges is important
- Your examples are relevant and current

Weakness: Structural Flow → Your sentence structure is confusing. The phrase lacks proper punctuation and smooth connection between ideas.

Exemplar: ***"Moreover, pressing challenges like climate change, pandemics, and international security ignore national boundaries, affecting all countries alike."***

■ Your persuasive piece shows promise but needs more development. The main ideas are good, but you could make them stronger. You mention important points about helping poor countries, but you need to explain them better. For example, when you talk about economic benefits, give clear examples of how trade helps both sides. Also, your paragraph about global problems needs better organisation. Try to connect your ideas more smoothly using words like 'furthermore' or 'consequently'. Your conclusion could be stronger by restating your main points clearly. You could improve the third paragraph by giving specific examples of how rich countries can help with global challenges. Additionally, try to make your second paragraph stronger by explaining more about how historical events affect countries today.

Score: 41/50

Section 2:

Should Rich Countries Be Required to Help Poorer Nations?

~~#1 With the world shrinking, it has become obvious that a number of contrasts exist between rich and poor countries.~~ [In our increasingly connected world, the stark differences between rich and poor countries have become impossible to ignore.] Some would argue that rich nations should not be obliged to help poor ones, but there is quite a fair deal of reasons why the rich nations must be obliged to assist the needy nations. This is not only a moral obligation but also an investment in global stability and prosperity.

First, rich countries have a moral obligation to help poor nations whose poverty was partly brought about by historical processes. ~~#2 The experience of colonization, exploitation of resources, and unequal exchange practices has left most nations in a pathetically struggling position to get up.~~ [The legacy of colonisation, resource exploitation, and unfair trade practices continues to severely impact many nations' ability to develop.] Due to that fact, wealthy countries, many of which are beneficiaries of this type of historical inequalities, must come up to deal with the lingering outcome of these actions.

Helping poorer countries can also reap economic benefits for rich ones: Poorer countries are helped to develop so as to create the new markets for a trade exchange that, on the whole, fosters global stability and lessens the risk of conflict related to poverty. As poor countries grow economically, they increase demand for goods, creating opportunities both ways. Furthermore, it assists in solving global problems such as outbreaks of diseases and climatic change that have no borders.

#3 ~~Last but not least, most of the challenges we are facing climate change, pandemics, and international security are borderless.~~ [Furthermore, the major challenges we face today - climate change, pandemics, and international security - know no borders.] The solution to these challenges, therefore, requires border-transcending cooperation that rich countries have to lead by providing resources and necessary expertise in order to enable all people to live at least a decent life. In helping poor countries, we promote equity and sustainability for humankind as a whole.

Conclusion: Rich countries should have an obligation to assist poorer countries. It is a moral issue, good for world prosperity, and necessary if ~~the~~ global problems are to be solved.

□ WRITING PIECE 2 - FEEDBACK

Section 1:

#1 (First paragraph): Strengths:

- Clear introduction of the main topic about smartphones' impact
- Good attempt at presenting a counterargument about parents' concerns

Weaknesses: Topic Development → Your opening lacks a clear stance on the argument. The shift between positive and negative effects creates confusion about your position. Your mention of "parents considering giving their child a phone after 16" seems disconnected from your main argument about smartphones making us smarter.

Consider: "While concerns exist about smartphones diminishing our intelligence, these devices actually enhance our cognitive abilities through instant access to educational resources and innovative learning tools."

#2 (Second paragraph about family connections): Strengths:

- Good real-world example about connecting families
- Clear comparison between traditional travel and smartphone communication

Weaknesses: Argument Structure → Your paragraph mainly describes what smartphones can do rather than proving they don't make us "dumber". The example about air travel versus phone calls doesn't directly support your main argument about intelligence.

Consider: "Beyond simple communication, smartphones enable educational video calls where grandparents can teach traditional crafts to their grandchildren across continents, fostering both learning and family bonds."

#3 (Final paragraph about business): Strengths:

- Detailed examples of business applications
- Good explanation of practical benefits

Weaknesses: Focus Drift → Your writing moves away from the main topic about intelligence to discuss business efficiency. The examples about project management and video conferencing don't link back to how smartphones enhance our thinking abilities.

Consider: "In the business world, smartphones challenge us to develop better problem-solving skills as we learn to manage multiple tasks, analyse data, and make quick decisions through various apps."

■ Your persuasive piece needs stronger connections between your examples and main argument. Start each paragraph with a clear topic sentence that links to how smartphones make us smarter. Also, add specific examples of how smartphones help with learning and thinking skills. Your writing would be more convincing if you showed how features like calculators, language learning apps, or educational games improve our abilities. Additionally, try to address the opposing view more directly - explain why people who think phones make us dumber are wrong. Remember to keep your focus on intelligence and learning throughout the piece.

Score: 39/50

Section 2:

Are smartphones making us dumber?

~~Smartphones have seamlessly transferred their importance in our modern life, offering a easy access to information, and connecting distant families from across the world.~~ [Smartphones have seamlessly integrated into our modern life, offering easy access to information and connecting distant families across the world.] #1 While some argue that smartphones are making us dumber, the truth is that it actually enhances our learning ability and style. ~~Many parents are considering giving their child a phone after the age of 16 as they believe that smartphones will hinder their child's learning ability and performance.~~ [Parents often delay giving their children smartphones due to concerns about learning ability and performance.] **This essay will highlight and evaluate the important roles that smartphones play in our life – keeping in touch with family members and for conducting business.**

#2 Many people around the world have to constantly invest their money into air travel to connect and meet with their distant family members. In contrast, a phone can bridge distant families with a click of a button – much simpler than booking flights and worrying about travel logistics or safety. ~~Smartphones are not the cause of making us dumber, but instead, an opportunity to check how our families are going with a simple call or text.~~ [Rather than making us dumber, smartphones provide opportunities for meaningful learning exchanges during family communications.]

#3 ~~Smartphones have made much difference in business functions nowadays, bringing flexibility and efficiency.~~ [Smartphones have transformed business functions, bringing unprecedented flexibility and efficiency.] They enable business proprietors or employees to conduct different businesses even while on the go, such as responding to emails, setting up meetings, or accessing documents remotely. Project management applications, video conferencing for communication,

and cloud storage make collaboration within a team quite smooth, even when the team is working from different time zones or locations. It keeps business people connected and informed about what's going on around them. Far from making us dumber, smartphones provide ways to make it easier to facilitate business processes in terms of speeding up responses and efficient workflow for more successful results eventually. Drawing on the above, it can be seen that smartphones have indeed revolutionized business operations; they are quite fundamental in terms of flexibility, efficiency, and better connectivity. Rather than degrading people's cognitive abilities, smartphones empower the professional through automating processes, improving communication, and facilitating better collaboration.

□ WRITING PIECE 3

Section 1:

#1 First paragraph Strengths:

- Clear topic introduction linking to student benefits
- Good connection between early start and extracurricular activities

Weaknesses: Unsupported Claims → Your paragraph makes broad statements about productivity without showing how early starts specifically lead to this outcome. Your phrase "the day becomes quite productive" needs concrete examples of how this happens.

Exemplar: ***Starting school earlier at 7:30 AM allows students to finish by 2:30 PM, giving them three extra hours for sports practice and homework compared to a later schedule.***

#2 Second paragraph Strengths:

- Links sleep habits to academic performance
- Considers parent and family impact

Weaknesses: Contradictory Logic → Your argument about early starts improving sleep quality conflicts with itself. You write "This may be very counterintuitive" but don't fully explain how early starts actually lead to better sleep patterns.

Exemplar: ***Students who start school early naturally adjust their bedtimes earlier, leading to a consistent 8-hour sleep schedule that improves their learning ability.***

#3 Fourth paragraph Strengths:

- Good conclusion linking benefits together
- Addresses implementation concerns

Weaknesses: Vague Resolution → Your closing lacks specific steps for change. The phrase "smoothly transitioned program" needs details about how schools can actually make this work.

Exemplar: ***Schools can gradually shift start times 15 minutes earlier each term while providing morning activity programmes to help students adjust to the new schedule.***

■ Your persuasive piece shows good basic arguments for early school starts. You need to strengthen your writing by adding real examples of how early starts help students. Also, try breaking down your long sentences into shorter, clearer ones. Your paragraphs would be stronger if you started each one with a clear point and then gave proper details to support it. Additionally, work on linking your ideas better - show how one benefit leads to another. Your second paragraph

about sleep patterns needs the most work - try explaining step by step how early starts improve sleep. Your conclusion could be stronger if you gave clear steps for schools to follow. Focus on making your writing more organised by starting with your strongest point about student benefits.

Score: 40/50

Section 2:

#1 Should school start later? Debates about earlier school starts have been going on for many years, but there are a variety of reasons this can be very beneficial to the students, the parents, and even the teachers. ~~First and foremost, with an earlier start time, the day becomes quite productive.~~ [Most importantly, starting school earlier makes the day more productive.] With the school commencing early, the children finish their work accordingly early, which leaves them adequate time for other extracurricular activities, homework, or rest. Having them start off early allows many students to have ample time for after-school sports or jobs.

#2 ~~Early school start times regulate better sleep habits.~~ [Earlier school start times help create better sleep habits.] This may be very counterintuitive, but starting school early can actually allow students to go to bed earlier and thus improve the quality of their sleep. Sleep is an important component in the development of the brain, and a student requires enough rest if he/she is to excel in school. The other added advantage is the fact that an early start might ~~have would~~ help those working parents who cannot always find childcare in the after school hours make a better arrangement for the children. ~~An earlier time allows parents more time to settle down with an improved work routine, which usually enhances family function and reduces stressful situations.~~ [Earlier start times give parents more flexibility to arrange their work schedules, which improves family life and reduces stress.]

An early start to school makes the process of learning even more productive and integrated. Quite a few hours in the morning are spent when school children are especially wakeful and energetic, and hence it usually remains the right time to grasp hard topics. In the case of early morning schools, the students' morning peaks will definitely get facilitated toward their particular routine in education. It would increase better concentration, improved retention of information, and overall an enriching productive process.

#3 ~~Although it may be hard to adjust to an early morning schedule, the payoffs in productivity and health are undeniable, thus improving academic performance.~~ [While adjusting to an early morning schedule may be challenging, the benefits to productivity, health and academic performance are clear.] Accommodating schools are encouraged to adopt these earlier start times

through planning in such a way that a smoothly transitioned program will better meet the needs of students, families, and educators alike.