

□ WRITING PIECE 1 - FEEDBACK

Section 1:

#1 (First paragraph) Strengths:

- Strong opening with a vivid example that sets up the argument well
- Effective use of contrast between "fun family" and the reality of screen addiction

Weaknesses: Topic sentence placement → Your opening paragraph lacks a clear topic sentence stating your main argument about screen time limits. → The narrative example, while engaging, takes up too much space before introducing your main point about screen time restrictions.

Exemplar: *Screen time restrictions are crucial for children's well-being, as demonstrated by the concerning trend of families who mistake digital isolation for quality time together.*

#2 (Third paragraph) Strengths:

- Good use of specific example with time schedules
- Clear cause-and-effect relationship between screen time and sleep

Weaknesses: Supporting evidence development → Your example about the eight-year-old's schedule needs more connection to your main argument. → You jump from describing the schedule to concluding about sleep problems without showing how the screens directly affect sleep patterns.

Exemplar: *The blue light from screens disrupts natural sleep patterns, so when children use devices until 8:30 PM, their bodies struggle to produce sleep hormones, leading to difficulties falling asleep and morning drowsiness.*

#3 (Fourth paragraph) Strengths:

- Clear distinction between recreational and educational screen time
- Strong counterargument addressing parents' concerns

Weaknesses: Paragraph organisation → Your discussion about grades and academic performance lacks smooth transitions between ideas. → The connection between screen time and poor grades needs more development before jumping to the counterargument.

Exemplar: *Extended recreational screen time directly impacts academic performance because children who spend hours on social media and games struggle to maintain focus during lessons and homework time.*

■ Your persuasive piece shows good potential but needs more development in key areas. The introduction would benefit from a stronger hook that directly connects to your main argument about screen time limits. You could improve the flow by adding clear topic sentences at the start of each paragraph. Your examples are good but need more explanation to show how screen time directly affects children. Also, try to make your arguments more convincing by showing the direct link between cause and effect in each paragraph. Your counterarguments are strong, but you could make them even better by explaining why your solution is the best option. Additionally, consider adding more emotional appeal to connect with parents who might read this piece.

Score: 40/50

Section 2:

#1 Imagine a family who claims that their children enjoy playing with each other every day. However, unlike any other household, this ~~so-called 'fun' family, is~~ [so-called 'fun' family is] glued to their screen, clicking and swiping, hour after hour, with the house filled with eerie silence, the only source of sound being the indistinct talk and music of these ~~hypnotising~~ [hypnotising] devices. ~~In my opinion, it is essential that children should never have unlimited screentime, but instead, have restrictions on how much they play.~~ [Children should never have unlimited screen time; instead, parents must implement strict restrictions on daily device usage.]

Firstly, the moment a child touches a screen for the first time, they almost instantly become enthralled with it, their session seeming to take forever to end. According to a study in the UK, in every child they studied that was confined into this inevitable trance, 53% of them struggle to find an alternative to their screens. Even the parents fail to do so, with ~~41% of parents of pre-teens can't seem to control their child.~~ [41% of parents of pre-teens unable to control their children's screen time.]

#2 Next, a child's excessive use of ~~screentime~~ [screen time] can significantly steal their valuable hours of sleep. For example, an ~~eight-year-old's~~ [eight-year-old's] bedtime is at 8:30 and sleeps for 11 hours each night. But as they have no restrictions to screen time, they use their screens in the hours of 3:30 to 6:00, and afterwards, 6:30 to 8:30. Thus, because the child used their devices until bedtime, they can't fall asleep for half an hour, and therefore, more likely to wake up at around 8 o'clock, not ready for school. Have you felt like this before?

#3 My last reason is that the excessive use of devices ~~on~~ [by] children will exacerbate their grades, as the things they view on their screens will distract them from learning at school. Evidence states that of 17% of children who view their devices 8 hours or more every day either have a C or D in their results. Because the recommended amount of ~~screen time~~ [screen time] each day is two hours, many parents argue that this restriction will obstruct them from their daily studying or homework, but this amount is only for recreational ~~screen time~~ [screen time], such as, social media and games, so children can still do their important tasks.

In conclusion, it is necessary that parents should enforce a limit on how much ~~screen time~~ [screen time] their children do. Many parents have already done this, including mine, which only allow two hours of ~~screen time~~ [screen time] on days without school. The parents who still do not have restrictions must create one of two hours each day, for their children's mental health, focus and academic grades.

□ WRITING PIECE 2 - FEEDBACK

Section 1:

#1 (First paragraph) Strengths:

- Your powerful metaphor comparing Earth to an apartment effectively draws readers in
- Your clear thesis statement sets up the focus on plastic pollution

Weaknesses: Incomplete development → Your opening lacks specific details about how plastic pollution affects Earth. The apartment metaphor needs more development to fully connect with your main argument. Your phrase "creeping us closer to the end" is too vague and needs concrete support.

Our planet is like an overfilled apartment, where mountains of plastic waste pile up in our oceans, streets and landfills, threatening the survival of countless species including humans.

#2 (Second paragraph) Strengths:

- Your emotional appeal using the pelican example creates empathy
- Your direct questions engage readers personally

Weaknesses: Underdeveloped scenario → Your pelican example needs more specific details about how plastic affects marine animals. The phrase "sculking the ocean" is unclear and the emotional appeal could be stronger with more vivid details about the animal's suffering.

Imagine being a pelican gliding over the ocean, diving for what appears to be a fish, only to discover too late that you've swallowed a deadly piece of plastic that will slowly poison you.

#3 (Fourth paragraph) Strengths:

- Your introduction of microplastics shows deeper understanding
- Your counterargument addresses opposing views

Weaknesses: Limited explanation → Your discussion of microplastics needs more details about their specific effects. The phrase "deadly pathogens" needs clearer connection to human health impacts.

Microplastics have invaded our daily lives, contaminating the tea we drink and the water we need to survive, carrying harmful substances that can make us seriously ill.

■ Your persuasive piece shows promise but needs stronger development in several areas. Focus on building deeper connections between your ideas, especially in your opening metaphor about Earth as an apartment. You can improve the second paragraph by adding more vivid details about

how plastic directly harms marine animals. Also, your fourth paragraph about microplastics would be more convincing with clearer examples of health impacts. Additionally, try to strengthen your emotional appeals throughout by using more descriptive language that helps readers visualise the problems. Your conclusion could be more powerful by suggesting specific actions readers can take. Moreover, work on smoothly connecting your ideas between paragraphs to create better flow.

Score: 42/50

Section 2:

Our planet is ~~seeming~~ [seems] to have infinite hospitality and resources, but at its heart, ~~is~~ [it is] plagued with trash and pollution, with every year creeping us closer to the end of not only animals, but also humanity itself. In this essay, I will address this renowned problem, and the effects plastic has on Earth and life on it. #1

At first, one tiny piece of plastic on the beach might seem harmless ~~at first~~, but [it is] extremely harmful to many animals. Evidence from the Australian Museum states that 40% of all marine animals are affected by marine plastic. ~~Imagine being a pelican sculking the ocean for food,~~ [Imagine being a pelican searching the ocean for food,] and eating something resembling a fish. But by the time this 'food' enters your stomach, your tummy growls ravenously, as if you ate something unhealthy for you. As pain engulfs you, you must be thinking: these humans never care for us, only themselves. How would you feel if you were a sea animal vomiting endlessly, never knowing what caused this torture in the first place? #2

This problem also affects society itself, as a famous tourist attraction can easily turn into a drab wasteland, from people throwing plastic in it for no apparent reason. This can therefore impact the income of the employees working there, who would struggle in finding a new job.

~~As much as~~ [While] plastic affects our planet's landscape and animals, it also alters us too. Microplastics, tiny plastics too small to see with the naked eye, have been found in sugar, tea and even water, one of our planet's most valuable resources. Of course, people may contradict and think: ~~It's~~ [It is] just ~~some~~ [some] tiny piece of plastic, what harm could it do to us? However, this assumption is not true, as these small, but potent objects carry deadly pathogens, resulting in, yet, another life destroyed by humanity's own creations. #3

From this text, it is clear that plastics affect animals, the environment and even people themselves. The fate of our world is in our hands. Either we continue creating these life-stealing

materials and in the process, manifesting our only home into hell, or advocate for a new, sustainable future using recycled materials, and significantly reducing the price of paper bags.

□ WRITING PIECE 3

Section 1:

#1 (First paragraph) Strengths:

- Effective use of rhetorical questions to engage readers
- Creates a relatable scenario about school struggles

Weaknesses: Underdeveloped Hook → Your opening relies heavily on questions without providing a clear stance on homeschooling. The phrase "just for this" is vague and doesn't clearly state what you're arguing against.

Exemplar: *Have you ever felt frustrated with early morning school routines and long, tiring days? While homeschooling might seem like an appealing alternative, traditional schooling offers irreplaceable benefits that make it the better choice.*

#2 (Second paragraph) Strengths:

- Good attempt at addressing counterarguments
- Uses specific example about friendship maintenance

Weaknesses: Limited Evidence → Your argument about friendships lacks specific examples of how school interactions benefit students. The phrase "vital life-support system for your friendships" is dramatic but doesn't explain why school friendships are better.

Exemplar: *Unlike homeschooling where social interactions are limited to scheduled meetups, traditional schools provide daily opportunities to build friendships through shared experiences like group projects, lunch breaks, and after-school activities.*

#3 (Fourth paragraph) Strengths:

- Addresses practical concerns about parental involvement
- Considers long-term implications

Weaknesses: Unclear Development → Your discussion about parents' work time lacks specific examples of how traditional schooling better supports working parents. The phrase "they will then start struggling" needs more context about specific challenges.

Exemplar: *Traditional schooling allows parents to maintain their careers while trained teachers handle your education, preventing the stress of balancing work responsibilities with teaching duties.*

■ Your persuasive piece shows good potential but needs stronger development of ideas. You can improve the first paragraph by clearly stating your position on traditional schooling's benefits. Also, in your second paragraph, include specific examples of how school friendships develop through daily interactions. Additionally, when discussing parent involvement, explain how traditional schools provide professional teaching support. You should add more real-life examples throughout your writing to make your arguments more convincing. Your conclusion could be stronger by restating your main points about social benefits, resource availability, and parent work-life balance. Try to connect your ideas more smoothly between paragraphs using transition phrases.

Score: 42/50

Section 2:

Have you ever felt exasperated as you had to wake up early, survive a long, boring day, just because of school? ~~And when you get back home, one question was glued into your mind~~ [When you return home, one question stays in your mind]: 'Why can't I just have homeschooling?' #1 ~~However, it is clear that people should not give up their schooling time just for this.~~ [However, traditional schooling offers valuable experiences that shouldn't be abandoned for mere convenience.]

#2 To begin with, although many people say that homeschooling makes you connect with friends more, it is actually a barrier from them, as your friends will be busy at their real school and not just one on Zoom. ~~Imagine not meeting your friends everyday like you used to before homeschooling, every weekend becoming the vital life-support system for your friendships.~~ [Imagine seeing your friends only on weekends instead of sharing daily experiences with them at school, weakening the bonds of friendship.]

To continue, homeschooling prevents you from accessing the usual things needed for learning, with most of them available at school. But some homeschools provide and deliver equipment for a student's tasks. However, the deliveries sometimes delay, parents would have to get the respective items at a store as the child's assignments draw near, thus reducing the parent's money even more. Would anyone want to walk back and forth to the mall and drain their own bank account?

#3 My final reason is that homeschooling will sometimes not only make your balance plummet, but also take up much of the parent's work time, constraining them into even more stress. According to a study, 14% of adults surveyed say they worry about homeschooling due to time

management. ~~If a parent does hardly any work because of this, they will end up quitting their job.~~ [Parents might be forced to quit their jobs if they cannot balance work with homeschooling responsibilities.] Although many parents say they still have time to do work, in the coming years, when their children become older, they will then start struggling to keep up when their child needs help or to talk with their homeschool teacher.

For these reasons, it is clear that homeschool is not an adequate replacement for a normal school, where your friends and resources are provided, and your parents' work time ~~wasted~~ ~~is spared~~ [is better managed]. There are teachers, many friendly children and equipment awaiting you at a day school, something that even the most hardworking homeschool cannot guarantee.