WEEK 5 -5th February Homework: Year 6 Scholarship Specialisation Final Sprint

□ WRITING PIECE 1 - FEEDBACK

Section 1:

#1: First paragraph Strengths:

- Your use of emotional appeal through vivid imagery of tired children effectively draws readers in
- Your clear thesis statement presents the main arguments well

Weaknesses: Underdeveloped Claims \rightarrow Your opening paragraph makes broad claims about screen time's effects without specific supporting evidence. The imagery of "bloodshot eyes" and "head in pain" needs more context to be convincing.

"Picture this: your child slumped over their desk at 3 AM, eyes red and strained from hours of screen time, struggling to complete homework due the next morning. This scenario is becoming increasingly common as unlimited screen time disrupts children's daily lives."

#2: "Sleep obesity" paragraph Strengths:

- Your attempt to connect screen time to sleep issues shows good awareness of health impacts
- Your inclusion of specific time recommendations provides actionable solutions

Weaknesses: Unclear Terminology \rightarrow Your use of "sleep obesity" is confusing and incorrect. The connection between blue light and vision problems needs clearer explanation.

"Extended screen time, especially before bedtime, disrupts children's natural sleep patterns due to the blue light emitted from devices. This disruption can lead to serious vision problems and chronic sleep deprivation."

#3: School study paragraph Strengths:

- Your connection between screen time and academic performance is relevant
- Your proposed solution shows practical thinking

Weaknesses: Weak Evidence Support \rightarrow Your claims about grades "plummeting" need more specific examples of how screen time directly affects studying.

"When children spend unlimited time on screens, their homework often goes uncompleted and their concentration in class suffers. For instance, a student who stays up late watching videos will struggle to focus during morning lessons."

■ Your persuasive piece shows promise in addressing an important issue, but needs stronger development of ideas. Your opening grabs attention, yet your arguments could be more convincing with real-life examples. Try adding specific scenarios showing how screen time affects daily student life. Also, focus on explaining the direct links between screen time and its negative effects. Your solutions are good starting points - expand on them by showing how they help children. Additionally, consider adding counterarguments to make your piece more balanced. Your conclusion could be stronger by restating your main points more clearly. Remember to use clear terms that your readers will understand easily.

Score:	39/	'50

Section 2:

#1 Is screen time the addiction of children? [Is screen time addictive for children?] The debate of whether kids should have unlimited screen time, or should there be restrictions has arisen in the community. Imagine your children receiving grades that are plummeting because of lack of sleep. Think of your children, with bloodshot eyes drooped [drooping] over their desk, their head in pain. Kids should have restrictions in the context of screen time as it affects children's sleep patterns, deteriorates school study progress and becomes [leads to behaviour becoming] extremely violent.

#2 Firstly [First], children should be accustomed to time limits on screen time because of sleep obesity [sleep deprivation]. Sleep obesity is when children who have unlimited screen time cannot sleep via the blue light that is used to create images on any device. [Children with unlimited screen time often struggle to sleep due to the blue light emitted by digital devices.] The United Nations Article 87 states that children should have a maximum of 8 hours of sleep. The terrorizing [concerning] consequence is that students and kids develop short sighted [sightedness] and long sighted [sightedness], emaciating their vision. Parents should allow a maximum of 20 minutes of screen vision [time] before resting eyes. Therefore, screen time should be restricted.

#3 Additionally, children should be given time limits because of school study. School study is prominent for life, as it fosters our knowledge. The United Nations conducted a chart, stating that 95% of people in the American Secondary Schools grade's [grades] plummet after watching unlimited television. The consequence is that when students are supposed to be studying, they are

watching screen time! The solution should be suspending screen time if their grades plummet! As you can see, screen time should certainly have time restrictions.

In conclusion, screen time should be restricted because of sleep obesity [sleep deprivation], school study and inducing violent actions. Put down your device and rest your eyes!

□ WRITING PIECE 2 - FEEDBACK

Section 1:

#1 (First paragraph) Strengths:

- Your opening creates a vivid emotional impact through sensory details about animals' suffering
- Your thesis statement clearly presents three main arguments

Weaknesses: Underdeveloped Hook \rightarrow Your opening paragraph jumps between different ideas without a smooth flow. The questions at the start feel disconnected from the vivid description that follows.

Imagine walking through a modern farm: the air fills with desperate squeals as pigs are dragged by their ears, while nearby, cattle cry out in pain. The haunting sounds blend with the harsh grind of machinery, raising an important question: should we continue eating meat?

#2 (Second paragraph) Strengths:

- Your use of evidence from UNEP supports your environmental argument
- Your solution offers a specific policy recommendation

Weaknesses: Unclear Connection \rightarrow Your paragraph presents facts about environmental impact but doesn't clearly link how the 5% fee would reduce meat consumption. The connection between your evidence and solution needs more explanation.

To address this environmental crisis, implementing a 5% fee on meat products would encourage people to reduce their meat consumption, leading to fewer trees being cut down for farmland.

#3 (Fourth paragraph) Strengths:

- Your inclusion of multiple consequences shows thorough thinking
- Your writing effectively links resource use to broader social issues

Weaknesses: Unfocused Arguments \rightarrow Your paragraph mentions water pollution, crop depletion, and homelessness without fully developing any single point. This makes your argument feel scattered.

The massive water usage in meat production not only depletes our freshwater supplies but also pollutes waterways when waste is improperly managed, harming both human communities and wildlife.

■ Your persuasive piece shows good potential but needs more focused development of ideas. You've included important evidence about environmental impact, animal welfare, and resource use. However, many of your arguments need deeper explanation to be more convincing. Try breaking down each consequence step by step to help readers better understand the connections. Also, your solutions could be more detailed - explain exactly how your suggested fees and grants would help solve the problems. Additionally, consider adding examples of successful meat reduction programs to strengthen your arguments. Your conclusion could be stronger by restating your main points with more impact rather than just repeating them. Try ending with a powerful call to action that will inspire readers to change their behavior.

Score: 42/50

Section 2:

Animal Rights: Should People Stop Eating Meat? Is Meat the only way to satisfy our body? Imagine pigs dragged by the car to the abattoir for their pork whilst cows are killed for their meat. [Picture this: pigs being dragged by their ears to slaughterhouses while cows are led to their death.] #1 Screams and Grunts of pain and mercy combined with the sound of brazen machinery grinding through their bones. The debate of whether people should stop eating meat has arisen between farmers. [The debate about meat consumption has sparked serious discussions among farmers.] People should stop eating meat as it causes disastrous environmental pollution, increasing Animal Welfare and plummeting the availability of resources.

#2 Firstly, people should certainly stop eating meat as it leads to environmental pollution. The United Nations Framework Convention on Global Warming (UNEP) conducted an experiment stating that animal products correlated to 90% greenhouse gas emissions. The severe consequence is that since animals need more land to breed there has been an approximation of 60 hectares of Ice-Free land consumed by livestock each year! [A severe consequence is that livestock breeding requires vast amounts of land, consuming approximately 60 hectares of ice-free land annually!] This also means that more trees are cut down, releasing more carbon dioxide into the Earth's atmosphere. The solution is that meat from all animals when entering the market or being imported there will be a 5% fee. Therefore, people should stop eating meat due to Environmental pollution.

Additionally, people must stop eating meat as it contributes to animal welfare. The United Nations Animal Convention stated that 30% of the world's freshwater has been used on just treating animal thirst and cleanliness. The deteriorating consequence is that cows and other animals like pigs are kept in confined sanctuaries, with barely no room to move around. [The dire

situation forces cows and pigs to live in cramped spaces, leaving them barely enough room to move.] This leads them to stress and often physical injury. The process of killing the animal is often done without adequate pain relief and loud noises can harm the animals health as well as well-being. The solution is that there should be a grant of 40% of importing fee. As you can see, animal meat should be avoided at all costs.

#3 Finally, people should stop eating meat as it leads to resource inefficiency. The RSPCA states that 90% of the world's resources such as water and land have been consumed by farmers and landstock. The abhorrent consequence is that meat production from animals requires substantial amounts of water and this water is flushed into waterways polluting the water. [The devastating reality is that meat production demands enormous quantities of water, which eventually pollutes our waterways.] Other pivotal things like grain, wheat and crops will diminish as the farmers have to constantly feed the constantly growing livestock of wheat and crops. Also when land gets smaller, the population of homeless will not have any land to dwell in. The solution is that if farmers stop butchering meat for one week there will be a grant of 200% off tax. To sum up, people should prohibit meat.

In conclusion, people should stop eating meat because of environmental problems, animal welfare and resource inefficiency. Farmers, lets stop butchering animals for their meat and grow crops for a change instead! [Farmers, it's time to shift from meat production to sustainable crop farming!]

□ WRITING PIECE 3

Section 1:

#1 (First paragraph) Strengths:

- Clear opening statement about school facilities and resources
- Good use of emotional appeal through relatable scenarios

Weaknesses: Underdeveloped Arguments \rightarrow Your main points about facilities and resources lack specific examples of how they benefit students' learning. The comparison between school and home learning feels rushed and needs more depth.

Exemplar: Traditional schools provide science laboratories where students can conduct hands-on experiments, helping them understand complex concepts through practical experience that is difficult to replicate at home.

#2 (Second paragraph) Strengths:

- Strong topic sentence about social development
- Good use of examples to support main idea

Weaknesses: Limited Evidence \rightarrow Your discussion of social development focuses mainly on making friends but misses other important aspects like leadership skills and conflict resolution. The UNESCO reference needs more context to strengthen your argument.

Exemplar: Beyond just making friends, school provides daily opportunities to develop crucial life skills like working in teams, resolving conflicts with classmates, and taking on leadership roles in group projects.

#3 (Fourth paragraph) Strengths:

- Good attempt to link activities to learning outcomes
- Clear structure with examples

Weaknesses: Shallow Analysis → Your discussion of extracurricular activities needs deeper exploration of their benefits. The connection between activities and learning outcomes isn't fully explained.

Exemplar: Activities like chess club develop strategic thinking skills that help in subjects like mathematics, while drama club builds confidence in public speaking and creative expression.

■ Your persuasive piece shows promise but needs more depth in its arguments. Consider taking your second paragraph about social development and adding real examples of how students learn

to work together during group projects or class discussions. Also, in your paragraph about extracurricular activities, explain how each activity helps students grow both academically and personally. Your introduction could be stronger by giving specific examples of how school resources benefit learning. You could improve your conclusion by summarising your main points more clearly and ending with a strong call to action. Remember to use more linking words between your ideas to help your writing flow better. Try to give more real-life examples that readers can relate to.

Score: 41/50

Section 2:

#1 Schools offer science labs, libraries, sports facilities, and clubs, providing students with hands-on learning experiences that homeschooling or online education cannot fully replicate. Extracurricular activities like music, drama, and sports also contribute to a well-rounded education. Will home learning dominate school in the future? Imagine your siblings squabbling in the background while you desperately try to hear what you Mum says. Think of just a complex time schedule for you. [How can home learning compare to school when students must deal with distractions like siblings and complex scheduling?] The debate of whether [about whether] school or homeschooling is better has arisen in the conversation of education experts. Traditional schooling is better than homeschooling as it creates social development, structured learning and discipline and access to resources.

#2 Firstly, traditional schooling is better as it creates social development. Children and students need to develop social skills to make friends and having a friend is [as friendship is] an important part of life. This also develops teamwork and cooperation. According to another program of the UN, (UNESCO), 90% of kids made friends when they [learnt at school. Imagine everyone playing hopseoteh, or laughing while you are excluded. [Picture being excluded from games and laughter during playtime.] The only way to solve this is to learn at school, which has opportunities for social development among students and staff. Therefore, learning at school creates a boundary for social development.

Additionally, traditional schooling is certainly convenient as it provides structured learning and discipline. Traditional schools follow a fixed curriculum to ensure students are on the right track and can receive help whenever they need it. Parents can also revise tests that are completed in school. They can also know how their children are going. The ACARA assessment states that 90% of students improved their score, correlating significantly to being taught the right curriculum and subjects in school. Imagine, you have no idea what you have been taught and

when a test falls into your hands, you don't know what to do. As you can see, schools have the traditional curriculum to teach students effectively.

#3 Finally, schools have access to extracurricular activities after school. They are promoted to teach but also designed to improve students' enthusiasm at school. For example, javas [Java] programming correlates to artificial intelligence understanding, chess relating to the movement and lego [Lego] is designed to improve coordination. The United Nations article 71 reports that extracurricular activities give 50% education. Think of you bored as you learn about only one subject at home whilst having a combination at school. So, traditional schooling is better than homeschooling.

In conclusion, traditional school is better than homeschooling as it promotes social development, organized [organised] curriculum and extracurricular activities.

□ WRITING PIECE 4

Section 1:

#1 (First paragraph) Strengths:

- Effective hook using vivid imagery of dolphins and ocean pollution
- Good use of rhetorical questions to engage readers

Weaknesses: Underdeveloped main claim \rightarrow Your opening paragraph introduces multiple ideas but lacks a clear, focused thesis statement. The phrase "plastic certainly should be prohibited" needs stronger backing with specific reasons that connect to your main arguments.

Exemplar: Plastic must be banned immediately because its devastating effects on our environment, marine life, and human health have reached critical levels that demand urgent action.

#2 (Second paragraph) Strengths:

- Clear topic sentence linking to environmental pollution
- Good attempt at providing solutions

Weaknesses: Unsupported claims \rightarrow Your statement about "each ton of plastic covers more than a hectare of land" needs proper context. The connection between temperature rise and plastic ban isn't clearly explained. The phrase "increasing its temperature by 15 degrees by the year 2027" seems unlikely and needs better support.

Exemplar: Plastic waste occupies vast areas of our precious land, destroying natural habitats where endangered species like koalas could thrive.

#3 (Fourth paragraph) Strengths:

- Good use of rhetorical question about food choices
- Clear connection to personal impact

Weaknesses: Unclear reasoning → Your explanation of how buried plastic affects playgrounds needs more detail. The link between soil contamination and respiratory cancer isn't clearly explained. The phrase "tested using gamma ray" seems out of place without proper context.

Exemplar: When plastic waste breaks down in soil, it releases harmful chemicals that can contaminate our food and water supplies, directly affecting our health.

■ Your persuasive piece shows good potential but needs stronger development in several areas. You've made a good start with emotional appeals about environmental damage, but your

arguments need clearer connections. For instance, when you discuss land pollution, try linking it directly to specific consequences for wildlife. Also, your solutions section could be more detailed - instead of just suggesting "picking up rubbish," you could describe how community clean-up events make a real difference. Additionally, your examples about marine life are moving, but you could strengthen them by showing how plastic waste directly affects the food chain. Your conclusion could be stronger by restating your main points more clearly and ending with a more powerful call to action. Try adding specific steps readers can take right away to reduce plastic use. Focus on making your arguments flow better between paragraphs using clear transition words.

Score: 41/50

Section 2:

Should Plastic Be Banned?

Is Plastic a friend or foe? Imagine dolphins diminishing from the oceans, rubbish floating around the waterways releasing foul odors [odours] into the air while the production of plastic increases. Think of microplastics duplicating in your body! #1 The debate of whether plastic should be banned has arisen between environmental experts. Plastic certainly should be prohibited as it ereates environmental pollution, causes excessive damage to marine life and leads to detrimental health risks. [Environmental experts increasingly agree that plastic must be banned due to its devastating environmental pollution, catastrophic damage to marine life, and severe health risks to humans.]

#2 Firstly, plastic correlates to environmental pollution. Each ton of plastic covers more than a heetare of land without intention. [Firstly, plastic directly causes environmental pollution, with each tonne of plastic waste consuming vast amounts of valuable land.] This hectare of land could be used to build or construct wildlife sanctuaries for endangered species like the native fauna of Australia, the koala or the Mountain Pygmy Possum. The United Nations (UN) states in article six that the world is increasing its temperature by 15 degrees by the year 2027 if we do not ban plastic. [Rising plastic production contributes significantly to global warming, as confirmed by United Nations research.] This leads to decreasing animals each year, damaging the biodiversity in each state and increasing the number of endangered animals. This could be solved by creating innovative ways to create new things out of rubbish or donating money to support animal foundations like RSPCA. Therefore, plastic should be eliminated due to the ongoing environmental pollution.

Additionally, plastic kills Marine Life. Dolphins and other creatures like octopus diets consist mainly of jellyfish and plastic bags are mistaken for them. Plastic piles up like a daunting mountain and some get swept away by the wind and land in the ocean. The UN's environmental program (UNEP) has conducted an experiment that almost 99% of seabirds will have ingested plastic if it continues to rise. In 2014, a Cuvier's beaked whale washed up dead on an island with 40 Kilograms of plastic in its stomach. This leads to coral loss and bleaching, decreasing Marine life. Mercury and also other contaminants get into the sea. This can be solved by picking rubbish up in your community or travelling around the world picking up plastic that has found its way into the sea. As you can see, plastic is definitely terroriz[s]ing our sea creatures.

#3 Finally, plastic gets into your skin. [plastic poses serious risks to human health.] Each year when land is not available, plastic is buried in the ground and then covered with soil, later to be used as stadiums or playgrounds. These tiny chemicals in the plastic normally known as Microplastic can't break down conveniently and meanwhile it releases toxic chemicals into the air. This can leak into your lungs causing respiratory cancer. The United Nations state that 80% of food like apples or citrus fruits when tested using gamma ray, microplastics have been found in them. Do you want to eat no fruit or no food just because of plastic? This can be solved, by using plastic bottles for example as a planting pot. So, plastic is highly detrimental.

To sum up, plastic should be exterminated because it creates environmental pollution, harms precious marine life and duplicates microplastics. Now, go and start recycling whether at your school, your work or in your community. Remember one person's trash is another person's treasure.