

□ WRITING PIECE 1 - FEEDBACK

Section 1:

#1 (First paragraph) Strengths:

- Strong opening with relatable examples of school problems
- Good use of rhetorical questions to engage readers

Weaknesses: Limited Development → Your first paragraph touches on several issues but doesn't fully expand on why these problems make homeschooling better. The phrase "None of the problems mentioned before really apply" needs more backing up with clear reasons.

"Unlike traditional schools where students face daily challenges like bullying and uncomfortable environments, home education offers a nurturing space where learning can flourish without these obstacles."

#2 (Second paragraph) Strengths:

- Clear focus on parent-teacher relationship
- Good connection between personalised learning and future success

Weaknesses: One-sided View → Your paragraph presents homeschooling as perfect without acknowledging any challenges. The phrase "It's a win-win!" oversimplifies the complexity of home education.

"While homeschooling offers many benefits like personalised attention and a safe learning environment, it requires dedicated effort from both parents and children to create an effective educational experience."

#3 (Final paragraph) Strengths:

- Strong use of rhetorical questions
- Clear concluding statement

Weaknesses: Underdeveloped Conclusion → Your ending feels rushed and doesn't tie your arguments together well. The phrase "myriad of reasons" promises more than what you've actually discussed.

"From creating a safe learning environment to providing personalised education, homeschooling offers unique advantages that help students thrive both academically and personally."

■ Your persuasive piece shows promise but needs more depth to truly convince readers. You've made good points about bullying and personalised learning, but you could strengthen your argument by discussing specific examples of how homeschooling benefits learning. The second paragraph would be more convincing if you explained how parents can effectively teach different subjects. Also, you could improve the final paragraph by summarising your main points more clearly. Try adding more details about daily homeschool life to help readers understand its advantages better. Your opening paragraph grabs attention well, but you could build on those ideas throughout the piece. Additionally, consider adding examples of successful homeschooling experiences to support your points.

Score: 40/50

Section 2:

Home Education

School- A place of bullying, smelly toilets, tiredness and mean teachers. We've all experienced it. We know the faults and problems of at-school education. But... What about education at home? None of the problems mentioned before really apply to a 100% homeschooled life. With homeschooling, you get to be somewhere you know and feel comfortable, around people you know. Yet at the same time you're around people who know you best and know the best way to teach you. #1

~~Bullying happens in almost every school, but what about home? It's just you, your parents and maybe siblings.~~ [While bullying is common in schools, at home you're surrounded only by family - your parents and perhaps siblings.] You get to live your learning life bully-free! And at the same time your teacher won't be one of those ones that judge you unfairly and yell all the time because they're your parents! It's a win-win! Another benefit of homeschooling is that you spend all day with your parents and there they can personalise your education because they know you better than anyone else. This means that you'll go into later life more educated and more prepared than the average student. #2

~~In general, homeschooling is better than education at school.~~ [Overall, homeschooling offers significant advantages over traditional schooling.] These are only three of the myriad of reasons that homeschooling is better. Do we want a bully free education~ [?] Do we want better prepared

students? Do we want a teacher always willing to hear what you have to say? If yes to these questions, then you have to agree that homeschooling is far superior to going to school. #3

□ WRITING PIECE 2 - FEEDBACK

Section 1:

#1 (First paragraph) Strengths:

- Strong emotional appeal through vivid descriptions of animal conditions
- Effective use of specific examples like chickens' beaks being shaved

Weaknesses: Underdeveloped Opening → Your first paragraph starts strongly but lacks a clear stance on the issue. The phrase "We must stop" is too abrupt and needs more development to be persuasive. ***We must take immediate action to end these cruel practices and transform our food industry into one that respects animal welfare.***

#2 (Second paragraph) Strengths:

- Good connection between animal welfare and human health concerns
- Clear explanation of the antibiotic resistance problem

Weaknesses: Limited Evidence Support → Your argument about antibiotic resistance needs more concrete details. Phrases like "enough time" and "could lead to" make your claims seem uncertain. ***The widespread use of antibiotics in animal farming has already led to resistant bacteria appearing in our food supply, putting both animals and humans at risk.***

#3 (Final paragraph) Strengths:

- Strong concluding message that ties back to main points
- Clear call to action

Weaknesses: Rushed Conclusion → Your conclusion feels hurried with phrases like "As this text comes to an end." You need to strengthen your final appeal. ***Together, we have the power to end this cruel system of farming. By choosing more ethical food options, we can create a better future for animals and protect human health.***

■ Your piece shows passion for the topic, but you need to make your arguments stronger. Your opening paragraph could grab readers' attention better by stating your main message clearly. Also, you could improve the middle section by showing how animal farming affects people's daily lives. Additionally, try to end with a stronger message that tells readers exactly what they can do to help. You might want to look at how different farms treat their animals and tell readers about better ways of farming. Your second paragraph needs more details about how antibiotics in farming affect people's health. Your conclusion would work better if you gave readers clear steps they could take.

Score: 39/50

Section 2:

#1 Flesh, Blood, and Meals

~~The meat industry—~~A [The meat industry is a] world of horrors and blood. Each and every day animals are put in captivity in inhumane conditions until they are fat enough to slaughter. In shadowed farms and cages[,], animals are put to death without even seeing the light of day. Chickens, for example, are kept in cages with the tip of their beaks shaved off. This is the world of the meat industry [—] Suffering and death. We must stop.

#2 For obvious reasons, animal farming is unethical. Most eggs come from cage-farms, where chickens have their beaks shaved off in case they fight and they are overcrowded in battery cages. Animals suffer from crowding, starving, and ~~even lack~~ [even lacking] proper medical treatment. To make this worse, since meat companies would lose money if their animals got sick, they dump antibiotics into the feed to kill bacteria. This leads to more bacteria becoming antibiotic resistant as they evolve, and with enough time[,], this could lead to a pandemic. And not one we can solve with antibiotics. Because of this, countless lives could be lost.

#3 ~~As this text comes to an end,~~ [In conclusion,] I would like to reiterate my points. We as a species must stop meat farming or the suffering of animals and ~~threat~~ [threats] of serious ~~pandemie~~ [pandemics] will continue to rise. Millions of animals ~~lived~~ [have lived] and died in these wretched conditions, and millions more will if we just sit idly by.

□ WRITING PIECE 3

Section 1:

#1 (First paragraph): Strengths:

- Strong opening hook that introduces the topic's complexity
- Good use of contrasting ideas (benefits vs drawbacks of screens)

Weaknesses: Underdeveloped argument → Your initial paragraph jumps between different ideas without fully exploring them. The phrase "They wear down our minds" needs more detail to strengthen your argument. You could expand on how exactly screens affect our minds.

Exemplar: *Screens have become an essential part of modern life, yet their impact on our mental wellbeing raises serious concerns. While they provide instant access to valuable information, their excessive use can significantly impair our cognitive abilities.*

#2 (Second paragraph): Strengths:

- Clear focus on specific effects of screens
- Good connection between cause and effect

Weaknesses: Limited evidence → Your discussion about attention span and sleep issues needs more concrete examples. The phrase "scientifically proven" stands alone without supporting details about how screens actually affect attention.

Exemplar: *When children spend hours scrolling through social media or playing video games, their ability to focus during lessons drastically decreases, leading to poor academic performance and disrupted sleep patterns.*

#3 (Third paragraph): Strengths:

- Addresses an important real-world issue
- Shows understanding of technology's broader impact

Weaknesses: Incomplete development → Your discussion about cyberbullying ends abruptly without offering solutions. The phrase "time is a safe haven" needs clarification to strengthen your argument about online harassment.

Exemplar: *Unlike traditional bullying that stops when children return home, cyberbullying follows them through their devices, making them feel trapped and anxious even in their own bedrooms.*

■ Your piece shows good understanding of screens' negative effects, but needs deeper exploration of each point you raise. The first paragraph could better explain the conflict between screens' benefits and drawbacks. You could improve the second paragraph by giving examples of how decreased attention span affects daily life. Additionally, your cyberbullying paragraph needs solutions to make your argument more convincing. Your conclusion feels rushed - try ending with a strong call to action that ties back to your main points. Focus on building stronger connections between your ideas to create a more persuasive flow.

Score: 39/50

Section 2:

#1 They are a staple of humanity, yet an overarching corruption. Screens- ~~The light they omit~~ [The light they emit] may make the world bright yet they as a machine are dark. They wear down our minds, our attention-span and maybe even our temper. Yet screens also give us easy access to news and recipes and information which we simply can't do without. ~~So... What can we do?~~ [How, then, can we address this challenge?] Well, the obvious answer is to limit them.

#2 Screens have many effects on the mind. Screens have been scientifically proven to decrease attention span and in some cases cause insomnia and other conditions. ~~Screens decrease attention span by giving off an excess of information inputs.~~ [The constant stream of information from screens overwhelms our ability to focus.] Additionally, screens give off blue light which stimulates the brain thinking it's morning and stopping them from sleeping. ~~People like children~~ [Children in particular] would be most deeply affected because they're still growing and need adequate rest to grow.

#3 ~~Lets~~ [Let's] face the dark truth. Children are bullied all over the world. It's a depressing but true reality. ~~Yet at least time is a safe haven~~ [While home once provided a safe haven], but with technology children can be cyberbullied wherever they are. This would lead to increased stress which could cause long term effects.

~~I hope you know why screen time must be limited.~~

□ WRITING PIECE 4

Section 1:

#1 (First paragraph) Strengths:

- Strong emotional appeal through vivid imagery of plastic as a "brutal harbinger"
- Engaging opening that draws readers in with a thought-provoking question

Weaknesses: Unclear stance → Your opening paragraph presents mixed messages about banning plastic. The question "Do you ban it or should we it continue its crusade of suffering?" contains grammatical errors and doesn't clearly state your position. ***I believe we must take a firm stance against plastic pollution. The evidence clearly shows that banning single-use plastics would significantly reduce environmental damage.***

#2 (Second paragraph) Strengths:

- Effective use of ocean wildlife examples to create emotional impact
- Good focus on specific environmental impacts

Weaknesses: Limited supporting details → Your paragraph mentions marine life getting trapped but doesn't fully develop how this happens. The phrase "boxes and nets of plastics" needs more concrete details about specific ways marine animals are affected. ***Marine animals often mistake floating plastic bags for jellyfish, leading to tragic consequences when they consume these materials. Sea turtles, dolphins, and seabirds become entangled in abandoned fishing nets, causing slow and painful deaths.***

#3 (Third paragraph) Strengths:

- Unique angle discussing plastic weapons
- Links environmental issue to human safety

Weaknesses: Underdeveloped argument → Your discussion about plastic weapons jumps too quickly to conclusions. The phrase "for the sake of humanity itself it is vital this stops" needs more backing to convince readers. ***Plastic weapons pose a serious threat because they can bypass security measures and cause devastating injuries that are difficult to treat. This development in warfare technology demands immediate attention and regulation.***

■ Your persuasive piece shows passion for the topic, but needs stronger organisation to make your arguments more convincing. Start by clearly stating your main point in the opening paragraph. Also, each paragraph should focus on one main idea with supporting details. Additionally, try linking your paragraphs together smoothly - move from environmental impacts to human impacts with clear connections. Your ending feels rushed - take time to sum up your main points and leave

readers with a strong final message. You can improve the second paragraph by giving specific examples of how plastic affects different marine animals. The third paragraph would be stronger if you explained more about why plastic weapons are dangerous.

Score: 40/50

Section 2:

Critical Headline Times: Plastic Problems

~~Corrupting our world bit by bit is plastic, the brutal harbinger of pollution.~~ [Plastic, the brutal harbinger of pollution, is corrupting our world bit by bit.] Every day they are ~~so many terrors at once~~ [they manifest as multiple terrors:] Prisons for unsuspecting wildlife, nets that kill thousands of fish at once, even firearms and landmines. Plastic, the unsuspected destroyer of lives. ~~How do you solve a problem like plastic? Do you ban it or should we it continue its crusade of suffering?~~ [How can we solve the plastic crisis? The evidence clearly points to banning it rather than allowing its crusade of suffering to continue.] Yet the answer to that question is painfully obvious- Yes. #1

Despite their look as a harmless object, plastics are a menace in maritime environments. ~~Everyday~~ [Every day] hundreds of tons of plastics find their way into rivers and oceans ~~were~~ [where] they become the true apex predator. Fish, turtles and all marine life alike go into boxes and nets of plastics thinking they are food, only to end up trapped or suffocated in plastic's grasp. Millions of animals have died this way, and if we do nothing there will be millions upon billions more. Is it right that we do nothing to stop this monster we created? If we can ban plastics then we can save millions of marine lives and preserve our ocean habitats. #2

~~Lets~~ [Let's] talk about something closer to home. Humans have been at war since their first ~~says~~ [days]. We always find worse and worse ways to kill each other, and in the ~~fact~~ [face] of war, plastic poses a unique threat. Unlike metal, plastics are unidentifiable under an X-ray, meaning that if people get them stuck inside their bodies, the chances are the plastic is staying there. War companies and militaries have already developed some plastic grenades and landmines, and for the sake of humanity itself it is vital this stops. #3

But until then, it's out from the Critical Headline Times and we'll see you on the next one!

□ WRITING PIECE 5

Section 1:

#1 (First paragraph): Strengths:

- Strong opening with a relatable scenario
- Effective use of rhetorical questions to engage readers

Weaknesses: Coherence → Your first paragraph jumps between different ideas without smooth transitions. The shift from describing the competition scenario to questioning the value of participation trophies is abrupt. "You had done a sports competition" and "by some miraculous means had won" don't flow naturally together.

What if I told you about the day I won my first sports competition? Standing on the podium, clutching what I thought was a special golden trophy, my heart sank when I realised everyone else had received the same award. This made me wonder: do achievements mean anything when everyone gets a trophy?

#2 (Second paragraph): Strengths:

- Powerful analogy using a military example
- Clear message about the value of genuine achievement

Weaknesses: Development → Your comparison needs more detail to be fully convincing. The soldier example feels rushed and extreme. "Lost an arm and a leg but held off a thousand tanks" seems unrealistic and might make readers doubt your point.

Imagine two soldiers returning from battle - one who risked their life saving their fellow soldiers, and another who simply showed up for duty. Would it be fair to give them both the same medal of honour?

#3 (Third paragraph): Strengths:

- Direct statement of key argument
- Clear cause-and-effect reasoning

Weaknesses: Elaboration → Your point about motivation lacks supporting details. The statement "there's really no motivation to actually do anything" needs specific examples to show why this is true.

When students know they'll receive an award regardless of effort, they might stop pushing themselves to improve. Why train harder for sports day if everyone gets the same trophy in the end?

■ Your piece makes a valid argument against participation trophies, but needs stronger development to be more convincing. You could improve the first paragraph by setting up your position more clearly after the opening scenario. Also, your second paragraph would be more effective if you used examples that your readers can relate to, like school or sports situations. Your third paragraph needs more real-life examples to show how participation awards affect motivation. Try adding a conclusion that ties your main points together and restates your position clearly. Focus on making your transitions smoother between paragraphs to help your readers follow your thinking better.

Score: 39/50

Section 2:

Imagine that you've just had the most thrilling day of your life: ~~You had done~~ [You competed in] a sports competition, and by some miraculous means had won. You had received your gift- ~~A~~ [a] beautiful golden trophy. But... Wait... Everyone else got one too. Does your great grand achievement mean anything if what you got was just ~~about~~ [like] a participation medal? Do achievements carry anything anymore? And should everyone get a trophy? Well, the answer is no, and let me tell you why.

#1 If everyone got a reward for participating, then winning, ~~then~~ [and] getting a prize wouldn't mean anything if you get it just for doing it. It would degrade real achievements that actually do matter.

#2 Imagine, if you will, a soldier that lost an arm and a leg but held off a thousand tanks in a war just for the soldier who hid in his dugout and never fired his weapon to get the same medal of honour. ~~Does~~ [Would] his loyalty and devotion mean anything when by medals you did "Just as well".

#3 ~~Another reason is that~~ [Additionally,] if you know you get the prize just for participating, then there's really no motivation to actually do anything for yourself and ~~makes~~ [it makes] you less willing to work for something.

Because of this, not everyone should get a reward just for participation.