

## □ WRITING PIECE 1 - FEEDBACK

Section 1:

#1 First Paragraph: Strengths:

- Clear introduction of the debate and its key stakeholders
- Well-structured thesis statement about finding balance

Weaknesses: Limited stance → Your opening lacks a strong position on the screen time debate. The phrase "While some argue for strict limits, others believe in a more flexible approach" shows uncertainty rather than taking a clear stand.

***I firmly believe that while screen time regulations are essential, a balanced approach combining structured limits with flexibility best serves children's developmental needs.***

#2 Second Paragraph: Strengths:

- Good use of specific examples to support benefits
- Logical flow from one benefit to another

Weaknesses: Underdeveloped ideas → Your discussion about self-control needs more depth. The phrase "self-control is developed when children learn to manage their screen use" doesn't fully explore how this development occurs.

***Self-control flourishes when children actively set their own screen time goals and learn to stick to them, much like following a daily routine or completing homework independently.***

#3 Fourth Paragraph: Strengths:

- Strong concluding statement
- Good summary of main points

Weaknesses: Vague resolution → Your conclusion saying "reasonable limits" and "right balance" needs more specific guidance. These phrases don't give readers clear takeaways.

***Parents should establish clear screen time guidelines, such as no devices during meals and homework time, while allowing flexibility for educational games and social connections with friends.***

■ Your persuasive piece shows promise but needs stronger arguments to convince readers. You should start each paragraph with a clear topic sentence that states your position. Also, include real-life examples when discussing benefits and drawbacks of screen time. Additionally, you could add personal experiences to make your arguments more relatable. Your third paragraph about drawbacks could explore more deeply how screen time affects children's daily activities. You might want to include suggestions for parents about setting screen time boundaries. Your conclusion needs concrete recommendations rather than general statements.

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**Score: 41/50**

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Section 2:

Screen time is a hotly debated topic among parents, educators, and health experts. ~~While some argue for strict limits, others believe in a more flexible approach.~~ [Although I strongly advocate for structured limits, there is merit in maintaining some flexibility.] The key is to strike a balance that maximises the benefits while minimising the risks. #1

On one hand, screen time can teach children valuable life skills. For instance, self-control is developed when children learn to manage their screen use and face the consequences of overindulgence, such as eye strain or wasted time. Additionally, screens can foster social interaction and teamwork. Many children collaborate with friends through online games or video calls, building communication and problem-solving skills. #2

On the other hand, excessive screen time can have serious drawbacks. Prolonged use can isolate children from family and friends, weakening personal connections. Moreover, the physical effects—such as eye strain, poor posture, and even weakened bones from inactivity—are concerning. These risks highlight the need for moderation.

~~In conclusion, screen time is neither entirely good nor bad.~~ [Based on the evidence presented, screen time, when properly managed, offers significant benefits.] It's a tool that, when used wisely, can offer educational and social benefits. However, parents should set reasonable limits to protect their children's physical and mental health. ~~By finding the right balance, we can ensure that screen time remains a positive part of children's lives.~~ [Through establishing clear guidelines and maintaining consistent oversight, screen time can enhance rather than hinder children's development.] #3

## □ WRITING PIECE 2 - FEEDBACK

Section 1:

#1 (First paragraph) Strengths:

- Your opening with the sea turtle scenario creates a powerful emotional hook
- Your clear link between the example and the main argument shows good reasoning

Weaknesses: Underdeveloped opening → Your initial scenario would be more impactful if you added specific details about how the plastic affects the turtle's suffering. The phrase "dying days later" could be expanded to paint a clearer picture of the consequences.

Exemplar: *Imagine a sea turtle mistaking a floating plastic bag for a jellyfish, swallowing it and suffering in agony as the plastic slowly blocks its digestive system, leading to a painful death days later.*

#2 (Second paragraph) Strengths:

- Your use of specific examples about marine mammals adds credibility
- Your logical flow from problem to current solutions shows good organisation

Weaknesses: Limited solution development → Your discussion of recycling and reducing plastic use needs more detail about why these measures aren't enough. The phrase "these measures aren't enough" requires deeper explanation of their limitations.

Exemplar: *While recycling and reducing plastic use help, these measures cannot fully address the massive scale of plastic pollution, as millions of tonnes of existing plastic continue to harm marine life.*

#3 (Final paragraph) Strengths:

- Your conclusion effectively ties back to the main argument
- Your emotional appeal with "every creature" creates a strong ending

Weaknesses: Vague call to action → Your ending needs more specific actions readers can take. The phrase "time to take action" doesn't give readers clear direction about what they can do.

Exemplar: *We must act now by supporting local plastic ban initiatives, choosing biodegradable alternatives, and demanding stricter regulations to protect every sea turtle, every coral reef, and every creature that calls this planet home.*

■ Your persuasive piece shows good potential but needs more depth in several areas. The opening scenario could be more detailed to better grab your readers' attention. Your middle paragraphs

would be stronger if you added more real-world examples of how plastic affects wildlife. Also, you could improve the flow between paragraphs by adding better linking words. Additionally, your arguments about biodegradable alternatives need more details about how they help solve the problem. Your conclusion would be more powerful if you gave readers specific ways they can help ban plastic in their daily lives. Your piece would also benefit from more emotional examples throughout to help readers connect with the issue. Finally, try adding more vivid descriptions of how plastic affects different marine animals to make your writing more engaging.

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**Score: 41/50**

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Section 2:

Imagine a sea turtle mistaking a plastic bag for food, swallowing it, and dying days later. This tragic scenario is just one example of how plastic harms wildlife. To protect animals and the planet, plastic must be banned. #1

Plastic is deadly to marine life. Over 100,000 marine mammals die annually from entanglement in discarded fishing nets or ingestion of plastic waste. Smaller creatures often become trapped in bottles or bags, leading to suffocation or severe injuries. ~~Recycling and reducing plastic use can help, but these measures aren't enough to stop the crisis.~~ [While recycling and reducing plastic use offer some solutions, these measures alone cannot effectively address the growing crisis.] #2

Moreover, plastic releases toxic chemicals as it decomposes. Substances like methane and leachate poison soil, water, and air, endangering both land and sea animals. A better solution is to switch to biodegradable alternatives, which break down safely and reduce harm to ecosystems.

Plastic also destroys habitats. In the ocean, it smothers coral reefs and blocks access to food sources, disrupting entire ecosystems. For example, fish lose their hiding spots when plastic entangles coral, leaving them vulnerable to predators.

~~Banning plastic is essential to protect animals and the environment. By adopting biodegradable materials and supporting stricter regulations, we can create a safer, cleaner world. It's time to take action—for the sake of every sea turtle, every coral reef, and every creature that calls this planet home.~~ [Banning plastic is crucial for protecting animals and the environment. Through the adoption of biodegradable materials and implementation of stricter regulations, we can create a safer, cleaner world. We must act now—for the sake of every sea turtle, every coral reef, and every creature that calls this planet home.] #3

## □ WRITING PIECE 3

Section 1:

#1 (First paragraph): Strengths:

- Effectively sets up a relatable scenario using vivid imagery
- Strong topic sentence that draws readers in

Weaknesses: Engagement depth → Your opening lacks emotional appeal that could make the scenario more compelling. The phrase "noisy class to settle down" could be enhanced with sensory details to help readers better connect with the situation.

Exemplar: *Imagine enduring the constant chatter and laughter echoing through the classroom as two pupils giggle endlessly, making it impossible for anyone to focus on the day's vital lesson.*

#2 (Second paragraph): Strengths:

- Clear comparison between traditional and homeschooling environments
- Good use of specific examples to support claims

Weaknesses: Supporting evidence → Your comparison needs more specific examples. The phrase "complete their work faster" is too general and doesn't fully show how homeschooling creates an efficient learning environment.

Exemplar: *Unlike traditional schools, homeschooling allows pupils to master multiplication tables at their own pace, taking extra time to practise difficult sums until they truly understand them.*

#3 (Fourth paragraph): Strengths:

- Addresses counterarguments effectively
- Provides practical solutions

Weaknesses: Solution development → Your discussion of group activities needs more detail. The phrase "collaborative learning" doesn't fully explain how these activities work in practice.

Exemplar: *To build social skills, you can join weekly drama clubs where homeschoolers work together to create and perform plays, developing friendships while learning teamwork.*

■ Your persuasive piece shows good potential but needs more depth in certain areas. The introduction could better grab your readers' attention by adding more vivid details about classroom disruptions. Also, when discussing the benefits of homeschooling, you could include

specific examples of daily activities that make learning more effective. Additionally, your piece would be stronger if you added more details about how homeschoolers can make friends and work in teams. Think about adding real situations showing how homeschooled pupils succeed in group projects. You could improve the second paragraph by giving examples of different subjects and how they're taught at home. The final paragraph needs stronger closing thoughts about why homeschooling is a good choice.

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**Score: 40/50**

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Section 2:

#1 Imagine waiting for a noisy class to settle down while two classmates giggle uncontrollably. Despite repeated warnings, they continue disrupting the lesson, wasting precious learning time. This common scenario highlights a key advantage of homeschooling: it ~~minimizes~~ [minimises] distractions and allows students to learn at their own pace.

#2 Homeschooling offers a focused environment where students can work efficiently. Unlike traditional schools, where disruptions are frequent, homeschooling lets students complete their work faster and spend extra time on challenging topics. For example, if a student struggles with maths, they can slow down and master the concept without feeling left behind. This ~~personalized~~ [personalised] approach ensures a deeper understanding of the material.

However, critics argue that homeschooling limits social interaction, which is crucial for developing teamwork and communication skills. Traditional schools provide opportunities for students to share ideas, collaborate on projects, and learn from diverse perspectives. These experiences prepare students for real-world challenges, such as working in teams or resolving conflicts.

#3 To address this, homeschooling can be supplemented with group activities. ~~Organizations~~ [Organisations] like Euka bring homeschoolers together for collaborative learning, ensuring they gain social skills while enjoying the benefits of ~~personalized~~ [personalised] education. This hybrid approach offers the best of both worlds.

In conclusion, while traditional schooling has its merits, homeschooling provides a more focused and flexible learning environment. By incorporating group activities, homeschoolers can develop social skills without sacrificing academic progress. Ultimately, the choice depends on the student's needs, but homeschooling offers a compelling alternative to traditional education.

## □ WRITING PIECE 4

Section 1:

#1 - First paragraph Strengths:

- Your opening uses a powerful emotional scenario that readers can relate to
- Your hook effectively introduces the main argument about participation trophies

Weakness: Connection gap → Your opening scenario about losing in soccer feels disconnected from your main point about participation trophies. The transition between feeling overlooked and how trophies help needs more depth to show the direct link.

Exemplar: *After experiencing the disappointment of losing despite your best efforts, participation trophies acknowledge your dedication and remind you that growth comes from trying, not just winning.*

#2 - Third paragraph Strengths:

- Your idea about life lessons is thoughtful
- Your writing links sports to broader life skills

Weakness: Limited elaboration → Your discussion about life lessons stays quite basic. When you mention "persistence and resilience", you could give specific examples of how participation trophies build these qualities in young players.

Exemplar: *These trophies teach valuable life lessons by showing that just as a football player might practice penalty kicks for weeks before scoring, success in life often requires continued effort despite setbacks.*

#3 - Final paragraph Strengths:

- Your conclusion ties all main points together nicely
- Your ending has a positive, uplifting tone

Weakness: Missing personal impact → Your conclusion feels general and could better highlight how participation trophies personally affect young players' growth and enjoyment in sports.

Exemplar: *By giving every player a trophy for their commitment, we create happy memories that encourage them to keep playing sports and learning important life skills along the way.*

■ Your persuasive piece shows good basic understanding of why participation trophies matter. To make it stronger, you could add more real examples from school sports to support your points. Your second paragraph could better explain how exactly trophies encourage players to keep trying

- perhaps mention specific ways coaches use these trophies to motivate their teams. Additionally, when discussing self-esteem benefits, you could describe more clearly how young players feel before and after receiving recognition. Your fourth paragraph needs more details about how participation trophies help build confidence step by step. Also, try adding more emotional words to help readers really feel why these trophies are important to young players.

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**Score: 39/50**

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Section 2:

#1 Imagine playing your absolute best in soccer [football], only to lose to the other team. As they celebrate their victory, you're left standing on the sidelines, feeling overlooked. ~~This is why participation trophies are essential—they encourage effort, promote healthy priorities, and boost self-esteem.~~ [Participation trophies play an essential role in sports - they recognise effort, promote healthy attitudes, and build self-esteem.]

Participation trophies motivate players to engage in sports and activities. Recognising a student's presence, even if they don't win, can inspire them to keep trying. Studies show that people are 20-50% more likely to participate when their efforts are acknowledged. This creates a more energised and committed team.

#2 Moreover, participation trophies teach valuable life lessons. They emphasise that winning isn't the only goal; effort and teamwork matter just as much. This mindset prepares children for real-world challenges, where persistence and resilience are often more important than coming in first.

Finally, these trophies boost self-esteem. For example, a young basketball player struggling with the game might feel discouraged after a loss. A participation trophy reminds them that their effort is valued, encouraging them to keep practising and improving.

#3 In conclusion, participation trophies are more than just small prizes—they motivate, instill good values, and build confidence. By recognising everyone's effort, we can transform competitions into friendly arenas of joy and growth.