

□ WRITING PIECE 1 - FEEDBACK

Section 1:

#1 (First paragraph): Strengths:

- Clear introduction that establishes the topic's relevance
- Good balance of presenting technology's role in modern life

Weaknesses: Limited hook → Your opening sentence could be more engaging to grab the reader's attention. The current start "In today's world" is quite basic and doesn't spark curiosity or interest.

Technology has revolutionised our daily lives, transforming how children learn, play, and interact with the world around them - but at what cost?

#2 (Second paragraph): Strengths:

- Well-structured contrast of negative effects
- Clear examples support main points

Weaknesses: Weak transitions → You jump directly into listing negative effects without a smooth connection from the previous paragraph. Phrases like "On the other hand" feel abrupt and don't flow naturally.

While technology offers numerous benefits, excessive screen time can pose serious challenges to children's wellbeing.

#3 (Third paragraph): Strengths:

- Offers practical solutions
- Ends with a clear main message

Weaknesses: Underdeveloped conclusion → Your final paragraph rushes through solutions without fully exploring how to implement them. The phrase "setting reasonable limits is crucial" needs more detail about what these limits might be.

Parents can create a healthy balance by establishing specific screen time rules, such as no devices during meals or homework, and planning exciting offline activities that children look forward to each day.

■ Your piece presents important points about screen time, but needs stronger arguments to be more persuasive. You could improve the impact by adding real-life examples that children can relate to. Also, your writing would be more convincing if you included specific suggestions for alternative activities instead of just mentioning "outdoor activities" and "creative hobbies". Additionally, you could strengthen your argument by describing how these alternatives benefit children. Your second paragraph could explain more about why face-to-face interactions are important for children. The final paragraph needs more specific examples of boundaries and how families can work together to follow them. Try to make your writing more engaging by using vivid descriptions that help readers picture both the problems and solutions.

Score: 39/50

Section 2:

#1 In today's world, screen time has become an essential part of daily life, especially for children. However, there is a growing concern about the impact of excessive screen time on kids. ~~On one hand,~~ [Furthermore,] technology can enhance learning by providing access to educational resources, interactive apps, and the ability to connect with others globally. It can also foster creativity, problem-solving, and critical thinking through video games and digital platforms.

#2 ~~On the other hand,~~ [However,] too much screen time can lead to negative consequences such as poor physical health (eye strain, poor posture, lack of exercise), mental health issues (increased anxiety, depression, and sleep disruption), and a decrease in face-to-face social skills. There's also the risk of exposure to inappropriate content and cyberbullying.

#3 While some screen time is inevitable, ~~setting reasonable limits is crucial.~~ [families must establish clear boundaries.] Parents and guardians should encourage outdoor activities, creative hobbies, and family interactions, ~~balancing~~ [to balance] screen use with real-world experiences. The key is moderation—setting boundaries that allow children to benefit from technology without it taking over their lives.

□ WRITING PIECE 2 - FEEDBACK

Section 1:

#1 (First paragraph) Strengths:

- Clear introduction of the main environmental issue
- Strong opening hook that captures attention

Weaknesses: Underdeveloped argument → Your first paragraph makes broad claims about plastic harming wildlife without providing specific examples of how this affects different species or ecosystems. The phrase "plastic waste harms animals" needs more detail to be truly persuasive.

Exemplar: ***Plastic waste devastates marine ecosystems, from sea turtles mistaking plastic bags for jellyfish to seabirds feeding plastic fragments to their chicks, resulting in countless deaths annually.***

#2 (Second paragraph) Strengths:

- Good transition between ideas
- Presents alternative solutions

Weaknesses: Limited exploration → Your paragraph briefly mentions alternatives but doesn't fully explain their benefits. The phrase "though sometimes more expensive or less convenient" dismisses potential counterarguments too quickly without addressing them properly.

Exemplar: ***While alternatives like glass and metal containers may have higher upfront costs, their durability and reusability make them more cost-effective in the long run, while protecting our environment from harmful plastic waste.***

#3 (Third paragraph) Strengths:

- Good conclusion that emphasizes individual action
- Effective use of persuasive language

Weaknesses: Vague solutions → Your final paragraph lists actions without explaining how they create impact. The phrase "Every small action counts" needs specific examples to be more convincing.

Exemplar: ***By choosing reusable shopping bags, refusing single-use plastic straws, and properly sorting recyclables, you can help reduce the 8 million tonnes of plastic entering our oceans each year.***

■ Your piece shows promise in addressing an important environmental issue, but needs deeper development of key arguments to be truly persuasive. You could strengthen your writing by adding vivid examples of how plastic pollution affects specific animals and ecosystems. Also, you should expand on the benefits of alternative materials, showing readers why they're worth the extra cost or effort. Additionally, your final paragraph would be more powerful if you included concrete examples of how individual actions make a difference. You could improve the second paragraph by discussing specific alternatives and their unique benefits. Your conclusion needs stronger emotional appeal to inspire action. Focus on painting a picture of a cleaner, healthier planet that readers can help create.

Score: 41/50

Section 2:

#1 Plastic pollution is one of the most pressing environmental issues today, and there's a strong case for banning plastic to protect wildlife and the planet. ~~Plastic waste harms animals, especially marine life, which can ingest or become entangled in plastic debris, often leading to injury or death.~~ [Marine animals suffer devastating consequences from plastic waste, as they frequently mistake it for food or become fatally entangled in debris floating in our oceans.] Furthermore, plastic takes hundreds of years to decompose, contributing to long-term environmental damage.

#2 ~~Banning plastic could reduce waste and encourage the use of more sustainable alternatives like biodegradable materials, glass, metal, or even plant-based plastics.~~ [A comprehensive plastic ban would significantly reduce waste whilst promoting the adoption of sustainable alternatives such as biodegradable materials, glass, metal, and plant-based plastics.] These alternatives, though sometimes more expensive or less convenient, are far more eco-friendly and can significantly reduce pollution levels.

#3 While banning plastic is an important step, it's not the only solution. People can make a difference by reducing plastic consumption, recycling properly, supporting businesses that use sustainable materials, and advocating for policies that promote environmental conservation. ~~Although the idea of banning plastic is a significant challenge, it's necessary for the preservation of our ecosystems and the well-being of all creatures on Earth.~~ [While implementing a plastic ban presents challenges, this crucial step will safeguard our ecosystems and protect countless species that call Earth home.] Every small action counts when it comes to protecting our planet.

□ WRITING PIECE 3

Section 1:

#1 (First paragraph) Strengths:

- Clear introduction of the main topic and opposing viewpoints
- Strong emphasis on social development benefits in traditional schools

Weaknesses: Underdeveloped argument → Your opening could be more persuasive by adding specific examples of how traditional schools develop social skills. The phrase "essential for developing social skills" needs more depth to convince readers.

Exemplar: *Traditional schools provide invaluable opportunities for social growth through daily interactions, group projects, and playground activities, which help students build crucial communication and friendship skills.*

#2 (Second paragraph) Strengths:

- Good contrast with traditional schooling benefits
- Clear points about personalised learning advantages

Weaknesses: Limited supporting details → Your discussion of online learning benefits lacks concrete examples. The phrase "more control over their environment" needs specific instances to make your argument stronger.

Exemplar: *Home learning environments allow students to create quiet study spaces, take breaks when needed, and use helpful tools like noise-cancelling headphones or standing desks to improve their focus and learning.*

#3 (Final paragraph) Strengths:

- Attempts to provide a balanced conclusion
- Recognises the importance of social interaction

Weaknesses: Abrupt conclusion → Your ending feels rushed and doesn't fully tie together your main points. The phrase "both have their merits" needs more development to make a stronger closing argument.

Exemplar: *While both learning environments offer unique advantages, combining traditional schooling's social benefits with online learning's flexibility creates an ideal learning experience that helps every student succeed in their own way.*

■ Your persuasive piece needs more specific examples to support your arguments. Take your first paragraph and add real situations showing how students work together in traditional schools. In your second paragraph, include actual ways students benefit from learning at home. Also, your conclusion could better explain how mixing both types of learning helps students. Try adding examples of successful blended learning activities. Make your arguments stronger by showing, not just telling, why each learning style works well. Additionally, use more persuasive words to convince your readers. Your piece would be more engaging if you shared some student experiences with both learning methods.

Score: 40/50

Section 2:

#1 The debate between traditional schooling and homeschooling or online learning is complex. Traditional schools offer a structured environment with face-to-face interaction, which is essential for developing social skills. Teachers can provide direct guidance, ensure accountability, and create a sense of community. The classroom environment fosters teamwork, collaboration, and hands-on learning that can be difficult to replicate at home.

#2 ~~However,~~ [Moreover,] homeschooling and online learning ~~however,~~ offer flexibility and ~~personalized~~ [personalised] instruction. Students can learn at their own pace, allowing for a deeper understanding of subjects they find challenging. They also have more control over their environment, which can lead to fewer distractions and a greater focus on individual learning styles. With the rise of technology, online resources, virtual classrooms, and educational tools can make remote learning a viable and effective option for many.

#3 ~~However, the~~ [The] social aspect of schooling is often a challenge with homeschooling. Traditional schools provide an opportunity to engage with peers and experience group dynamics. ~~In conclusion,~~ [To summarise,] both have their merits, but a blend of traditional schooling and ~~personalized~~ [personalised] online learning could offer the best of both worlds, accommodating the needs of diverse students.

□ WRITING PIECE 4

Section 1:

#1 First paragraph: Strengths:

- Clear introduction of main topic and key perspectives
- Well-organised presentation of ethical concerns

Weaknesses: Limited development of ethical argument → Your discussion of animal cruelty would be more impactful with specific examples showing how factory farming affects animals. The phrase "inherently cruel" needs more support to convince readers.

For instance, factory farming often confines animals to cramped spaces where they cannot move freely or express natural behaviours, causing both physical and emotional distress.

#2 Second paragraph: Strengths:

- Good connection between environmental and health impacts
- Clear structure linking different consequences

Weaknesses: Underdeveloped environmental claims → Your environmental points need more detail about how meat production affects our planet. The phrase "leading cause" requires stronger backing to persuade readers.

The meat industry contributes to environmental damage through practices like clearing rainforests for cattle grazing and using massive amounts of water to raise livestock.

#3 Third paragraph: Strengths:

- Balanced approach to solution
- Practical suggestion for readers

Weaknesses: Vague conclusion → Your ending needs clearer action steps for readers. The phrase "make a positive impact" is too general to motivate change.

By choosing to eat meat-free meals three times a week, you can help reduce environmental damage while still enjoying your favourite dishes occasionally.

■ Your piece shows good basic understanding of the topic, but needs more detailed examples to truly convince readers. Try adding real-life situations that show how factory farming hurts animals. Also, include clear steps readers can take to eat less meat. Your second paragraph could explain more about how meat production damages our environment. Additionally, your ending should give readers specific ways to start changing their eating habits. Try making your writing

more personal by sharing how these changes could help animals and our planet. Your first paragraph needs stronger reasons why eating meat is wrong. Make sure each point clearly shows why readers should care about this issue.

Score: 40/50

Section 2:

#1 The debate about whether people should stop eating meat is multifaceted, touching on ethical, environmental, and health concerns. ~~From an ethical perspective, many argue that consuming animals for food is inherently cruel, as it involves the suffering and death of sentient beings.~~ [Looking at ethics, we can see that eating animals causes them to suffer and die needlessly, which many consider deeply wrong.] Factory farming practices, in particular, have been criticized for their inhumane treatment of animals. A plant-based diet, proponents argue, could reduce animal suffering and foster a more compassionate society.

#2 From an environmental standpoint, the meat industry is a leading cause of deforestation, water depletion, and greenhouse gas emissions. ~~Reducing meat consumption, especially red meat, could significantly lessen the strain on the planet.~~ [When we eat less meat, particularly red meat, we help reduce damage to our environment.] Moreover, plant-based diets are often associated with better health outcomes, reducing the risks of heart disease, diabetes, and obesity.

#3 ~~While a complete shift to plant-based diets may not be feasible or desirable for everyone, reducing meat intake and exploring sustainable alternatives can make a positive impact.~~ [Though not everyone can or wants to completely stop eating meat, eating less meat and trying plant-based foods can help make things better.] Flexitarian diets, which allow for occasional meat consumption while focusing on plant-based foods, are gaining popularity as a practical compromise for those who want to balance personal and environmental concerns.

□ WRITING PIECE 5

Section 1:

#1 (First paragraph): Strengths:

- Clear introduction of the main debate using balanced language
- Strong topic sentence that sets up the discussion effectively

Weakness: Limited development of supporting points → Your opening argument about self-esteem and participation lacks concrete examples. The phrase "help build self-esteem" needs more depth to show how trophies actually achieve this outcome.

Exemplar: *Participation trophies help build children's self-esteem by celebrating their commitment to practice, showing up to games, and supporting their teammates - key behaviours that form the foundation of future success.*

#2 (Second paragraph): Strengths:

- Good use of counter-arguments
- Clear linking words to show opposing viewpoint

Weakness: Underdeveloped reasoning → Your counter-argument about "unrealistic expectations" is mentioned but not fully explored. You could strengthen this by showing how these expectations might affect children in real situations.

Exemplar: *Critics worry that giving everyone trophies creates unrealistic expectations, as children may struggle later in school or sports when they face genuine competition and learn that not every effort results in an award.*

#3 (Final paragraph): Strengths:

- Attempts to find middle ground
- Links back to main ideas

Weakness: Weak conclusion → Your conclusion lacks specific suggestions for achieving the balance you propose. The phrase "balancing both perspectives" needs concrete examples of how this could work in practice.

Exemplar: *A balanced approach might include giving special recognition trophies for most improved player, best team spirit, and outstanding sportsmanship, while still maintaining special awards for top performers.*

■ Your persuasive piece needs more specific examples to support your claims. Take your first paragraph and add real-life situations showing how participation trophies affect children's motivation. Also, your second paragraph could benefit from describing actual scenarios where children face success and failure. Additionally, your conclusion would be stronger if you suggested specific ways to balance recognition and achievement. Your writing shows good organisation, but adding these details would make your arguments more convincing. Lastly, try to include more emotional appeals to connect with your readers about why this topic matters for children's development.

Score: 40/50

Section 2:

#1 ~~The question of whether everyone should receive a trophy in sports and competitions sparks strong opinions. Supporters of participation trophies argue that they help build self-esteem and recognize effort, especially for young children who may not yet have developed the skills to win. The focus is on encouraging the joy of participation, teamwork, and personal growth rather than emphasizing competition alone.~~ [Supporters of participation trophies maintain that these awards build self-esteem and acknowledge effort, particularly for young children still developing their skills. They emphasise that celebrating participation, teamwork, and personal growth matters more than pure competition.]

#2 ~~However, critics contend that giving trophies to everyone undermines the value of achievement.~~ [Nevertheless, critics argue that awarding trophies to everyone diminishes the value of achievement.] They argue that it diminishes the significance of winning and can lead to unrealistic expectations. Rewarding only winners, they believe, fosters a stronger work ethic, motivation, and a sense of accomplishment. Children need to learn how to deal with both success and failure, and a trophy for participation might encourage a sense of entitlement rather than resilience.

#3 ~~Ultimately, the solution may lie in balancing both perspectives.~~ [In conclusion, the solution likely requires finding balance between both viewpoints.] Encouraging hard work and rewarding progress while still acknowledging the effort of all participants can teach children the value of perseverance and humility, without devaluing success.