WEEK 6 -12th February Homework: Year 6 Scholarship Specialisation Final Sprint

# **□** WRITING PIECE 1 - FEEDBACK

#### Section 1:

#1 (First paragraph) Strengths:

- Your opening hook effectively draws readers in with a relatable scenario
- Your clear thesis statement presents your position on banning homework

Weaknesses: Paragraph organisation  $\rightarrow$  Your introduction jumps too quickly from the scenario to the main arguments. The phrase "This is why School homework should undoubtedly be banned" needs more build-up to connect with your opening scenario.

Exemplar: Imagine finishing six hours of school, walking home exhausted, and facing hours more work instead of much-needed rest. This daily struggle shows why homework should be banned.

#2 (Second paragraph) Strengths:

- Your point about hobbies is relevant to students' lives
- You make a clear connection between homework and lost opportunities

Weaknesses: Development of ideas  $\rightarrow$  Your argument about hobbies needs more specific examples. The phrase "You not being able to go out makes you never get to try something new" is too general and needs concrete details.

Exemplar: Without homework, students could join sports teams, learn musical instruments, or develop artistic skills - activities that build well-rounded individuals.

#3 (Final paragraph) Strengths:

- You offer an alternative solution
- You end with a clear call to action

Weaknesses: Conclusion structure  $\rightarrow$  Your conclusion introduces a new idea rather than reinforcing your main points. The phrase "why do not we add an extra hour of school" should be developed earlier in your piece.

Exemplar: Homework should be banned and replaced with an additional hour of guided learning at school, allowing students to maintain both their studies and well-being.

■ Your persuasive piece shows promise in addressing an issue that matters to students. You could strengthen your argument by providing more specific examples of how homework affects daily life. Also, try to develop your points about sleep deprivation more fully by sharing real student experiences. Additionally, consider explaining how an extra hour of school would work better than homework. Your writing would benefit from clearer transitions between paragraphs to help your ideas flow smoothly. Focus on building stronger connections between your evidence and main arguments. Remember to keep your alternative solution of extending school hours consistent throughout your piece rather than introducing it at the end.

**Score: 36/50** 

Section 2:

Should homework be banned?

Imagine this: You do [Imagine doing] six hours of work[,]you walk home and all you want to do is relax and sleep[,]but instead you must do homework till [until] early hours of the morning. #1 This is why School [school] homework should undoubtedly be banned. Two reasons why people must ban this terrible thing is [are] having no hobbies and attention.

#2 Firstly, if you have no hobbies[,]then you will not be good at anythingand if you are no good at anything. [and this affects your overall development.] That is exactly what homework is doing to you! You not being able to go out makes you never get to try something new. [Being confined to homework prevents you from exploring new activities.] Most kids slowly start dropping out on [of] hobbies because they need to study and do homework. So, by banning homework[,]kids can enjoy themselves and play new sports.

Lastly, if you must stay up till [until] twelve am [a.m.] in the morning[,]by the time you get to school[,]you will obviously not have a good night~'s~ sleep and soon you will be tired and grumpy[,]and you will have a terrible day at school. It shows that 56.7% of students do not get enough sleep, and only 10% of students do in Australia. So, by homework becoming banned[,]people can get enough sleep and relax.

#3 So, in conclusion, Homework [homework] should be banned because of focus and hobbies. So, instead of this, [Instead,] why do not we add an extra hour of school so we can learn more[,]which would make an excellent make up [substitute] for homework.

# **□** WRITING PIECE 2 - FEEDBACK

### Section 1:

#1 (First paragraph) Strengths:

- Clear opening statement that directly states your main argument
- Good attempt to introduce three main points that will be discussed

Weaknesses: Unclear thesis statement  $\rightarrow$  Your opening sentence contains a repetition of "schools" which creates confusion in your main argument. The introduction lacks a clear explanation of what specifically should be banned. Schools should ban mobile phones because they negatively impact students' focus, encourage cyberbullying, and pose health risks.

#2 (Cyberbullying paragraph) Strengths:

- Good connection between cyberbullying and its impact on mental health
- Strong emotional appeal about the harmful effects

Weaknesses: Limited development  $\rightarrow$  Your discussion about cyberbullying would be more convincing if you showed how it happens in schools. The link between banning phones and stopping cyberbullying needs more depth. Cyberbullying through mobile phones during school hours has become a serious issue, as students can anonymously send harmful messages that affect their classmates' wellbeing and academic performance.

#3 (Health paragraph) Strengths:

- Good attempt to address potential counter-arguments
- Clear examples of health concerns

Weaknesses: Contradictory statements  $\rightarrow$  Your writing mentions there is "no true evidence" but then lists health problems. This weakens your argument about health impacts. Research shows that excessive phone use during school hours can lead to physical problems like eye strain and poor posture, affecting students' ability to focus in class.

■ Your persuasive piece needs stronger support for each argument. You could improve the focus section by sharing real examples of how phones disturb learning in classrooms. Also, your cyberbullying paragraph would be more convincing if you explained how phone use during school makes this problem worse. Additionally, try to make clearer links between each paragraph and your main argument about banning phones. Your conclusion could be stronger by reminding readers of your key points instead of just repeating them. Remember to use words like "therefore" and "as a result" to show how your ideas connect. Your writing would improve if you added examples from real school situations.

**Score: 36/50** 

#### Section 2:

Schools should absolutely be banned in schools [Mobile phones should absolutely be banned in schools] because of three reasons: focus, cyberbullying and health. #1

Firstly, focus. Focus is an important skill so you can learn and understand things at school. Phones take that away from you. You must stop using these devices so people can focus and get better grades. [Students must stop using these devices to maintain focus and achieve better grades.] These devices are harming us and will ruin our focus and heath [health].

Secondly, bullying is a terrible thing, and no one should have to experience it. #2 Cyberbullying is even worse because people can pretend to be someone and say mean things to people. This can cause anxiety and stress which can lead to depression and not doing well in school. However, if phones are banned then no kid would ever experience this terrible thing.

Lastly, health. Health is extremely important, and phones make our health worse. #3 Although there is no true evidence of mobile phones harming us it ean [they can] cause eye strain, sleep disorder and hand and wrist pain. All these things happen after using your phone for too long so there needs to be a ban on these things.

In conclusion[,] phones should 100% be banned and students should stop using them. The reasons are because of health, bullying and focus.