

□ WRITING PIECE 1 - FEEDBACK

Section 1:

#1 (First paragraph) Strengths:

- Clear introduction of the main topic about homework
- Direct statement of your position supporting homework

Weaknesses: Underdeveloped opening → Your opening lacks a strong hook to grab the reader's attention. Starting with "Many schools" is too general and doesn't create interest. Your first paragraph would benefit from a more engaging introduction about why homework matters to students personally.

Exemplar: ***"Have you ever wondered why teachers assign homework every day? While some students view it as a burden, homework plays a vital role in helping us become better learners."***

#2 (Second paragraph) Strengths:

- Good use of personal experience about not doing homework
- Clear link between homework and academic performance

Weaknesses: Limited evidence development → Your supporting points need more specific examples. When you mention "Many studies show," you don't provide any concrete examples of how homework helps. The paragraph would be stronger if you shared a specific personal story about how homework helped improve your understanding of a topic.

Exemplar: ***"Last term, my daily maths homework helped me master multiplication tables. After practising every evening, I improved my test scores from a C to an A."***

#3 (Fourth paragraph) Strengths:

- Good point about parent involvement
- Clear explanation of how parents can help

Weaknesses: Circular reasoning → Your argument about parents helping with homework becomes repetitive. You state that "Parents know exactly how to teach their child" but don't explain why or give examples. The paragraph needs more specific scenarios of how parent involvement through homework benefits learning.

Exemplar: *"When I struggled with fractions, my mum used cooking measurements during homework time to help me understand. This hands-on approach made the concept clearer than classroom learning alone."*

■ Your persuasive piece shows good basic understanding of the benefits of homework. To make your writing more convincing, you need to include more personal examples that show how homework has helped you or your classmates. Also, try starting each paragraph with a stronger topic sentence that clearly states your main point. Your conclusion could be more powerful by adding a call to action telling readers what they should do about homework. Additionally, work on making smoother connections between your ideas using words like 'furthermore' and 'consequently'. Your paragraphs would be more persuasive if you explained how homework helps in specific subjects like maths, science or English. Try adding examples of actual homework tasks that have helped students learn better.

Score: 42/50

Section 2:

Many schools want their fellow students to be the smartest they can, and they do this in many ways. ~~From the start of education until the present day,~~ [Since the beginning of education,] homework has been one of the most renowned ways to boost children's grades. I believe that we should continue this process of homework because of its benefits. #1

To begin with, homework supports children in maintaining their academic grades. Many studies show that students that study with homework perform significantly better academically than those who do not do it. This task, although ~~seeming~~ [it may seem] like torture, will ~~practise~~ [help practise] a student's skills and thus, ~~improving~~ [improve] their performance. ~~On a time~~ [During times] when you did not do your homework for a very long time, you must have felt that you have not warmed up or practised your skills, and did not feel like you could do your work properly. Therefore, homework will certainly improve your grades, and should be implemented into schools. #2

Next, when a child grows up, time management is a necessary skill that will aid them in their future job. When children do regular homework tasks, they set up a time to do homework every day, something that you do at work. Time management at work is important, as it helps maintain your job and prevents you from getting fired. However, some people concern that homework is preventing children from finding their hobbies, something that can help find their dream job. But

they can also find their favourite things at school using co-curricular clubs, like employee-run clubs at work.

Moreover, homework informs parents of what is being learned in class. If a child is suffering in a particular area in a subject, then homework will effectively tell parents what they are struggling with. The parent can then teach the child after school the topic that they need help in if they still need help after coming home. Parents know exactly how to teach their child, and their method can be significantly easier than your teacher's, helping you learn more efficiently. As a result, homework will make learning skills easier, and helps expand on the topics you are not familiar with. #3

~~In conclusion, it is compulsory to issue homework, a beneficial chore, in every school.~~ [In conclusion, homework should be a required part of every school's curriculum as it benefits students in many ways.] Children will feel proud once this task is out of the way, and will sense that they have learned more over the week. Schools should implement ~~a right~~ [an appropriate] amount of homework, based on their students' opinions, and parents will support their students with additional support and watch as their child's grades 'magically' improve. Once this plan is done internationally, we will be able to create a future of gifted 21st and 22nd century learners.

□ WRITING PIECE 2 - FEEDBACK

Section 1:

#1 (First paragraph): Strengths:

- Strong opening with vivid imagery of the school setting
- Clear thesis statement about phone prohibition

Weaknesses: Underdeveloped hook → Your opening scene needs more sensory details to make it more engaging. The rhetorical question "Have you ever seen a place like that?" feels rushed and doesn't fully connect with your main argument.

I walked through the school hall during lunch break yesterday. The silence was eerie - dozens of students sat hunched over their phones, their faces bathed in blue light. No laughter, no chatter, just the occasional tap of fingers on screens. This concerning sight shows why mobile phones must be prohibited at school.

#2 (Second paragraph): Strengths:

- Good use of relatable example about screen time limits
- Clear connection to school context

Weaknesses: Unclear reasoning → Your argument about timer limitations lacks clear links between cause and effect. When you write "by the time they chime, most teens will either forget what the ringing meant," you don't fully explain why this leads to phone prohibition being necessary.

Students often ignore screen time limits, showing why simple restrictions aren't enough. When the timer rings, many continue scrolling through their phones, forming habits that harm their learning. This proves we need a complete ban on phones at school.

#3 (Fourth paragraph): Strengths:

- Addresses important issue of online safety
- Links phone use to broader social issues

Weaknesses: Rushed conclusion → Your discussion of bullying and mental health feels hurried. The jump from "disturbing content" to bullying needs more steps to show the connection clearly.

The risks of unrestricted phone use go beyond academic concerns. When students freely access social media at school, they often encounter harmful content that affects their wellbeing. This negative exposure can lead to bullying as students react differently to what they've seen.

■ Your persuasive piece shows good potential but needs deeper development of ideas. The structure of your arguments could be stronger - try to make each point flow naturally into the next. Think about adding more real-life examples from your school to support your points. Also, your conclusion feels a bit sudden - spend more time explaining why a complete ban is better than other solutions. Your opening paragraph grabs attention but could paint an even clearer picture of the problem. Try to add more details about how phone use affects daily school life. Make your arguments stronger by showing, not just telling, why phones are harmful. Add examples of specific situations where phones have caused problems in class.

Score: 43/50

Section 2:

Paint a picture of ~~bustling~~ [a busy] hall, but filled with emotionless students just gazing blankly at their phones. Have you ever seen a place like that? Many people are addicted to their devices, and in this essay, I will ~~state that~~ [explain why] mobile phones should be prohibited at school. #1

Firstly, most schools have restrictions on when you can use your phones, but teens ~~that~~ [who] become easily distracted with them can instantly surpass this limit. Have your parents ever set a limit on how much screen time you could do, and almost instantly, the timer was finished, but you kept using the device anyway? This is what most teenagers at school do, with all of them doing an average of 4.8 hours of screen time every day, easily becoming a habit in their tertiary years. Even though this problem can easily be prevented by setting alarms and timers, by the time they chime, most teens will either forget what the ringing meant, or they would just press the snooze button and remind them outside their restriction. #2

To continue, mobile phones at school straight after a rigorous lesson will hinder the brain's ability to process information and strategies, resulting in decreased grades. A study shows that excessive screen time will thin the cerebral cortex, the part of the brain responsible for memory and information processing. Every day after recess, you will see otherwise gifted students sluggish after school and forgetting how to solve problems from using mobile phones too much.

Finally, the more screen time a child does at school, ~~they will see~~ [the more they encounter] more disturbing content, worrying them at school and making other teens question: 'Why is this person acting so weird?' thus, leading to more bullying, in the virtual and real world. Bullying is already a massive problem for every age group, and will most likely result in mental health problems. Even if students never look at social media at school, they will most likely see inappropriate ads in a website for school, leading to depression and sleep disorders. #3

As a result, it is clear that mobile phones should be prohibited at high schools. Teens can still use their laptops, but only at their ~~teacher~~ [teachers'] discretion. We need to address these disadvantages now, and implement a ban on phones in high schools.