

Section 1:

#1 "Social media, a huge problem to students and all other children, should be banned because it causes distress, harm, and can worsen different mental and physical problems that may be present, including eye issues and cyberbullying."

a. Strengths:

- States a clear position on the topic
- Lists several reasons to support the argument

b. Weaknesses: Lack of specificity and supporting evidence → Your points about social media causing distress, harm, mental and physical problems are good reasons to support a ban. However, you don't provide any specific examples or evidence to back up these claims. Mentioning "eye issues and cyberbullying" is a start, but more detail is needed to make a convincing case. What kinds of distress and harm are caused? How common are these problems?

c. Exemplar: ***Social media, which negatively impacts the wellbeing of children in myriad ways, should be banned. Studies show that excessive social media use is linked to higher rates of anxiety, depression, sleep problems, and eating disorders in young people. Furthermore, nearly 60% of teens have experienced some form of cyberbullying on social platforms.***

#2 "Innocent kids, once lively and bright, become drawn to a merciless and evil entity – social media. With children glued to their screens, not knowing that they are being lured into a trap, they check out social media, which has become the platform of addiction and abuse."

a. Strengths:

- Uses vivid, emotionally evocative language
- Emphasises the vulnerability and innocence of children

b. Weaknesses: Overly dramatic tone and unsubstantiated claims → While your point about social media being addictive and potentially abusive has merit, the language you use here is quite hyperbolic. Calling social media "a merciless and evil entity" and a "trap" makes your argument seem a bit over-the-top and less credible. You also state that kids are "glued to their screens" and imply that all children on social media are being abused, which are strong claims that require substantiation.

c. Exemplar: ***Many well-intentioned children, unaware of the risks, are drawn into unhealthy patterns of social media use. With how engaging and ever-present these platforms are in young***

people's lives, children can develop dependent relationships with social media that border on addiction. This leaves them vulnerable to the negative influences and abusive behaviours that unfortunately proliferate online.

#3 "Studies show that social media can harm self-esteem along with overall satisfaction with life. Imagine this: a child sobbing, addicted and helpless, as he wishes to have never fallen into the trap of social media. His ambition might just be to go back to his original state, happy and carefree."

a. Strengths:

- References studies to lend credibility
- Uses an emotional appeal to engage the reader

b. Weaknesses: Vague reference to research and use of extreme example → It's good that you mention studies supporting your point about social media harming self-esteem and life satisfaction. However, you don't provide any specifics about these studies, like who conducted them, when they were done, or what exactly they found. This makes the reference feel a bit vague and unsubstantiated. Your hypothetical example of an addicted, sobbing child also feels somewhat extreme and melodramatic. Not every child who uses social media becomes addicted or has their life ruined.

c. Exemplar: ***Numerous studies, including a 2019 report by the Royal Society for Public Health, have found significant links between social media use and reduced self-esteem and higher rates of depression in children and teenagers. Consider the far too common case of a young teen whose self-worth becomes unhealthily tied to the constant feedback loop of likes, comments and follows. Feeling inadequate and anxious, they may long for the simpler days before social media consumed their mental and emotional energies.***

■ Your persuasive piece makes some compelling points about the potential dangers of social media for children. You highlight important issues like cyberbullying, screen addiction, and negative impacts on mental health and self-esteem. These are all valid concerns that many parents and experts share. To strengthen your argument, I recommend providing more specific evidence and examples to illustrate the extent and severity of the problems you mention. Citing a few key statistics or studies would help demonstrate that these are not just hypothetical issues but realities many children face. Also, be careful not to rely too heavily on extreme, worst-case-scenario examples, as this can undermine your credibility. Acknowledge that not all social media use is inherently harmful.

Additionally, consider addressing some potential counterarguments. For example, some might say social media helps kids stay connected to friends and family, or that it's an important outlet for self-expression. Grappling with these points will make your case more well-rounded and

persuasive. Overall, you've chosen a timely and important topic. With some more specific evidence and acknowledgement of the complexity of the issue, you can craft a very strong argument for restricting children's social media access. Keep developing your ideas and honing your persuasive writing skills!

Score: **39/50**

Section 2:

Level 1: Social media should be banned for all children.

Level 2: Social media, a huge problem ~~to~~ [for] students and all other children, should be banned because it causes distress, harm, and can worsen different mental and physical problems that may be present, including eye issues and cyberbullying.

#1 Level 3: Innocent kids, once lively and bright, become drawn to a merciless and evil entity – social media. With children glued to their screens, not knowing that they are being lured into a trap, they check out social media, which has become the platform of addiction and abuse.

#2 ~~Thus~~, [In this way,] social media ~~is~~ [becomes] the culprit ~~of~~ [behind] issues such as cyberbullying and addiction, ~~and this means that~~ [meaning] banning ~~them~~ [it] would be ~~for the~~ [in] the best ~~of the next generation~~ [interests of the rising generation].

Integration Challenge

#3 Studies show that social media can harm self-esteem along with overall satisfaction with life. Imagine this: a child sobbing, addicted and helpless, as he wishes ~~to have~~ [he had] never fallen into the trap of social media. His ~~ambition~~ [only wish] might just be to ~~go~~ [return] ~~back~~ to his original state [of being] happy and carefree. ~~Thus~~, [Therefore,] is it responsible to let the younger generation deal with social media themselves? ~~and s~~ [S]houldn't we ~~take the responsibility to~~ step in? ~~What will~~ [How would] you feel knowing that generation after generation ~~are~~ [is] going to blame you for not ~~taking care of~~ [protecting] the children ~~with~~ [from] social media? To step in, social media should be banned ~~for your children, and~~, on a ~~broader~~ [wider] ~~range~~ [scale, for] all children.]