

Section 1:

#1 "By minimizing homework, students can concentrate more effectively on the following day's lesson. A recent study, made by a collaboration of professional teachers and scientists, showed that providing less homework automatically boosts student retention for the upcoming day. More homework leaves children tired and unable to deeply focus, most of them chatting to their friends. You learn mostly everything at school and home is a place for rest and relaxation. Decreasing homework would lead to better focus and would help recall what was learnt in the classroom."

Strengths: You've introduced a scientific basis for your argument. Your clarity in explaining the relationship between rest and cognitive function is effective.

#2 "Many talents are going to waste due to the immense pile of workload that is being dropped onto children. Going to school, finishing homework and doing other daily necessities leaves no time for extracurricular activities. These out-of-school activities enhance work choices for later on life, when it is time to pick your major. Many families barely have time for each other and the precious time that they actually have is spent by kids getting their homework finished. Potential natural gifts are being thrown to rot due to the relentless and suffocating pressure of excessive academic demands."

Strengths: Your emotional appeal about wasted talents is compelling. You've effectively connected homework to broader life impacts including family relationships.

Weaknesses: While your emotional appeal is compelling, a more measured tone with concrete examples would strengthen your writing.

Exemplar: ***When Sarah, a Year 5 student, had to abandon her promising piano lessons due to homework taking three hours every evening, she lost not only a potential career pathway but also a vital creative outlet that had brought her joy and confidence.***

#3 "Homework is made for children to revise what has been taught in the classroom at home. It also allows teachers to see where the child is academically. Despite this being the reason for homework, less homework would do the same thing and also have other benefits. For instance, as mentioned before, less homework improves the focus of children during learning time. Many of the children do not even get to finish most of their homework. Instead of putting heavy piles of assignments on children, less workload would not make much of a difference."

Strengths: You've acknowledged the opposing viewpoint about homework's purpose. Your conclusion that "less workload would not make much of a difference" is logically structured.

Weaknesses: Underdeveloped counterargument → You briefly mention the traditional justification for homework but don't fully explore how less homework could still achieve these aims. Your claim that "many children do not even get to finish most of their homework" needs supporting evidence.

Exemplar: *Quality-focused homework—such as one thoughtful reading response rather than ten comprehension questions—would still allow teachers to assess pupils' understanding whilst reducing stress and increasing completion rates, as demonstrated in Ms. Wilson's Year 6 class where homework completion improved from 65% to 92% after this approach was adopted.*

Your persuasive piece presents a clear position on reducing homework, but your arguments could benefit from more specific evidence. Your emotional language about talents "thrown to rot" is passionate but might be more effective with concrete examples of specific activities children miss due to homework. Also, your counterargument section acknowledges homework's traditional purpose, but you could strengthen this by explaining exactly how a reduced homework model would still allow for academic assessment. Your conclusion summarises your main points effectively, but adding a specific, actionable recommendation for an ideal amount of homework would make your argument more compelling. Try balancing emotional appeals with logical evidence throughout your writing. Your transitions between paragraphs flow naturally, helping the reader follow your reasoning. ■

Score: 41/50

Section 2:

The truth is that homework does not really lead to the key to unlocking academic success. Less homework would result in better grades and a happier student. Children's love of learning is being stolen from them by the stacks of textbooks and looming deadlines. With less homework to finish, children tend to recall more information that is taught in the classroom. Students would get to spend more time doing extra-curricular activities and finding or improving on their true potential. Although homework allows students to revise what they have been taught in class, this is not necessarily true. ~~A diminished homework burden would assist children in many ways.~~ [Reducing the homework burden would benefit children in numerous ways.]

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#2 Many talents are going to waste due to the immense pile of workload that is being dropped onto children. Going to school, finishing homework and doing other daily necessities leaves no time for extracurricular activities. These out-of-school activities enhance work choices for later on life, when it is time to pick your major. Many families barely have time for each other and the precious time that they actually have is spent by kids getting their homework finished. ~~Potential natural gifts are being thrown to rot due to the relentless and suffocating pressure of excessive academic demands.~~ [Potential natural gifts remain undeveloped due to the relentless and suffocating pressure of excessive academic demands.]

#3 Homework is made for children to revise what has been taught in the classroom at home. It also allows teachers to see where the child is academically. Despite this being the reason for homework, less homework would do the same thing and also have other benefits. For instance, as mentioned before, less homework improves the focus of children during learning time. Many of the children do not even get to finish most of their homework. ~~Instead of putting heavy piles of assignments on children, less workload would not make much of a difference.~~ [Instead of burdening children with heavy piles of assignments, a reduced workload would achieve the same educational aims whilst providing additional benefits.]

In conclusion, less assigned work would lead to many advantages. Students would show stronger focus with less homework burdened on them. Talents are thrown away because of the limited time left after finishing colossal stacks of homework. Yes, homework is beneficial for students, though many do not even get to finish all the homework and finishing the rest makes them behind in class. Teachers and the principal should really consider less homework for the benefit of the students.