Writing Feedback

TERM 1 2025 | WEEK 5 - Year 6 Reading & Writing

Section 1:

#1 "Homework is an essential part of practicing and improving skills. The type of homework that I strongly believe in not only includes academics but also extra-curricular activities and life skills that one learns throughout their waking hours."

Strengths: Your opening establishes a broad definition of homework that extends beyond traditional academics.

Incomplete thesis \rightarrow Your introduction lacks a clear, focused thesis statement that articulates your specific argument about homework. The current statement is quite general and doesn't provide readers with a precise position to engage with. Consider revising to include a more targeted claim about what specific benefits increased homework provides.

I strongly believe that thoughtfully designed homework across academic subjects, extracurricular activities, and life skills provides students with essential practice opportunities that lead to measurable improvements in both academic achievement and personal development.

#2 "Research by the Australian Council for Educational Research (ACER) found that homework can positively impact student achievements. According to a report by The Australian Department of Education, students who engage with homework regularly learn valuable time management skills."

Strengths: You've incorporated evidence from reputable educational bodies to support your argument.

Underdeveloped evidence \rightarrow Your reference to research remains superficial without explaining the specific findings or how they connect to your broader argument. The evidence needs elaboration to clarify how these research findings specifically support your position on homework. Consider expanding on what these studies actually discovered and connecting them directly to your main points.

Research by the Australian Council for Educational Research demonstrated that students who completed regular, targeted homework showed a 15% improvement in test scores and developed significantly better study habits, proving that well-designed homework directly enhances academic performance whilst building crucial life skills.

#3 "Some argue that homework takes time away from other activities such as sports and recreational activities robbing children of their life enjoyment. I argue that homework can be embedded in our day to day activities as good habits such that one continues to improve without missing out on enjoying life."

Strengths: You acknowledge opposing viewpoints, which strengthens your persuasive approach.

Counterargument weakness \rightarrow Your response to the opposition lacks concrete examples of how homework can be practically embedded into daily activities. This makes your rebuttal seem theoretical rather than practical. Consider providing specific examples of how homework can be integrated into everyday activities without sacrificing enjoyment.

Whilst critics claim homework steals precious childhood time, I maintain that thoughtfully designed tasks can be woven into daily routines—such as calculating grocery costs during shopping trips or measuring ingredients whilst cooking family meals—creating learning opportunities that enhance rather than detract from life's enjoyable moments.

Your persuasive piece shows promise but needs stronger organisation and more detailed support for your claims. The introduction requires a clearer thesis statement that precisely articulates your position on homework. Throughout your writing, you make several claims but don't fully develop them with specific examples or detailed explanations. Additionally, your counterargument section acknowledges opposing views but doesn't effectively dismantle them with concrete evidence.

To improve your piece, focus on strengthening your thesis statement so readers immediately understand your exact position. Then, ensure each paragraph has a clear topic sentence followed by specific examples and explanations. For instance, when discussing how homework builds neural connections, include a concrete example of a specific homework assignment and explain exactly how it achieves this goal. Also, use transition words such as "furthermore," "consequently," and "however" to create better flow between your paragraphs. Your persuasive piece would also benefit from a stronger conclusion that reinforces your main arguments and leaves readers with a memorable final thought about the importance of homework.

Score: 38/50

Section 2:

Why I strongly believe in more homework

Homework is an essential part of practicing and improving skills. The type of homework that I strongly believe in not only includes academics but also extra-curricular activities and life skills that one learns throughout their waking hours. I advocate for more homework that fits this definition.

As human beings we improve with practice. Homework gives us a structured way to improve your [our] skills. As we do homework, we need to refer to a wide variety of resources which include books, news articles, internet [the internet] and working together with other students and seeking support from teachers, coaches and parents. Doing so we exercise [By doing so, we exercise] our mind and body which helps build new neural connections and improve our interpersonal skills and make social connections.

- #2 Research by the Australian Council for Educational Research (ACER) found that homework can positively impact student achievements. According to a report by The Australian Department of Education, students who engage with homework regularly learn valuable time management skills. Many high school students who are involved in extracurricular activities such as sport or community projects helps [help] them discipline [develop discipline] and a strong sense of responsibility.
- #3 Some argue that homework takes time away from other activities such as sports and recreational activities robbing [thereby robbing] children of their life enjoyment. I argue that homework can be embedded in our day to day [day-to-day] activities as good habits such that one continues to improve without missing out on enjoying life.
- #1 Homework that is targeted and personalized [personalised] according to the learning needs of each individual students [student] can help them thrive both academically, physically and socially whilst strengthening family bonds. By focusing on quality and balance, we can ensure that homework remains an important and beneficial part of a student's education.