

Writing Feedback

DAY 4 | 24th of April | HOLIDAY WRITING HOMEWORK

Section 1:

#1 - "The Human Cost Of Poverty" (Introduction)

Strengths: Your introduction effectively establishes the human dimension of poverty rather than just presenting statistics. You've created a strong opening that engages the reader emotionally.

Weakness: Lack of specificity regarding the news angle. → Your piece is structured more like a general essay about poverty rather than a news article about a recent event or issue in another country. While you mention poverty as a global challenge, you haven't identified a specific recent event, location, or development that would frame this as news. For example, when you state "poverty is a harsh reality for billions," you could instead focus on a specific recent development like "Recent flooding in Bangladesh has exacerbated poverty rates, with over 2 million people newly displaced."

Exemplar: *A devastating famine in Somalia, worsened by the recent drought affecting the Horn of Africa, has pushed an additional 500,000 people below the poverty line this month, reports the UN.*

#2 - "Health Implications Of Poverty" (Middle section)

Strengths: Your connection between poverty and health outcomes is well articulated. The inclusion of an expert quote from Dr. Tedros adds credibility to your writing.

Weakness: Missing current news context. → While you mention COVID-19, this section treats it as background information rather than recent news. The paragraph lacks specific details about current health implications in a particular country. For instance, when discussing the pandemic, instead of general statements, you could focus on a recent outbreak or health crisis in a specific country and its immediate impacts.

Exemplar: *Last week's cholera outbreak in rural Zimbabwe has already claimed 27 lives, with local hospitals reporting severe shortages of clean water and basic medical supplies due to ongoing economic instability.*

#3 - "A Call to Action" (Conclusion)

Strengths: Your conclusion effectively brings together the themes of the piece and emphasizes collective responsibility. The tone is appropriately urgent and forward-looking.

Weakness: Vague solutions without specific news references. → The conclusion offers general statements about addressing poverty without mentioning any specific recent initiatives, policies, or international responses that would be expected in a news article. For example, when you write "Governments, organizations, and individuals each have a part to play," you could instead reference specific recent actions like a UN emergency fund or an NGO's new program in response to a particular crisis.

Exemplar: *Following yesterday's emergency meeting in Geneva, the World Bank has announced a £300 million relief package specifically targeting education infrastructure in flood-affected regions of Pakistan, with distribution set to begin next month.*

■ Your piece demonstrates strong writing skills and a good understanding of poverty as a global issue, but it doesn't fulfill the requirements of a news article about a recent event. While your analysis of poverty's impacts is thorough, you need to anchor your writing in a specific, current event happening in an identifiable country. The writing reads more like an informative essay than breaking or recent news. To improve, you should select a specific poverty-related event that has occurred recently (within days or weeks), identify the country where it's happening, explain why this particular development matters now, and include quotes from people directly affected. Also, provide concrete details about international response efforts currently underway. Try restructuring your piece to follow the inverted pyramid style typical of news articles, with the most important and newest information at the beginning rather than building to a conclusion.

Overall Score: 42/50

Section 2:

Poverty: A Global Challenge That Demands Our Attention.

The Human Cost Of Poverty #1

Poverty is not just a statistic, it is a harsh reality for billions of individuals around the world. Defined as the condition of insufficient financial resources to meet the basic necessities of life, poverty manifests in many forms, impacting health education and even overall wellbeing. Despite advances in technology and global wealth, millions continue to face the harsh consequences of this persistent issue.

The Numbers Speak

According to the world ~~bank~~ [Bank], approximately 712 million people live on less than \$2.15, the international poverty line. This figure is not merely a number, but ~~it also~~ [also] represents generations of financial struggle where families face daily uncertainties about their shelter, their next meal, access to clean water and education. In many developing regions, poverty is exacerbated by conflict, climate change, and inadequate infrastructure, creating a vicious cycle that is hard to escape.

Health Implications Of Poverty #2

The relationship between health and poverty ~~are~~ [is] deeply intertwined. Individuals in poverty often lack access to adequate healthcare, nutritious food and clean drinking water. "Lower-income communities experience higher rates of chronic diseases and malnutrition." ~~reports~~ [reports] Dr. Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus from the World Health ~~Organisation~~ [Organisation] "~~WHO~~ [WHO]). Children are particularly vulnerable; malnutrition can hinder their growth and cognitive development, trapping them in a cycle of poverty that can last a lifetime. Moreover, the COVID-19 pandemic has highlighted the stark disparities in health outcomes exacerbated by poverty. Vaccination rates, access to medical facilities, and treatment options vary widely, as ~~marginalized~~ [marginalised] groups often do not receive the care they desperately need. The pandemic's ramifications have pushed millions more into poverty, reversing years of progress and further widening the gap between the rich and poor.

Education As A Pathway Out

Education is often heralded as a vital means of breaking the poverty cycle. However, for many, access to quality education remains elusive. In low-income countries, schools are

often underfunded, overcrowded, and lacking in basic resources. "I could not go to school and had to work at the age of 9 years." ~~Said~~ [said] a person ~~who's~~ [whose] family was experiencing poverty. According to UNESCO, approximately 258 million children and youth are out of school globally, with those from impoverished backgrounds disproportionately affected. Without education, individuals struggle to acquire the skills necessary for gainful employment, perpetuating a cycle of poverty that robs future generations of opportunities. Innovative solutions are emerging, such as community-based education programs and mobile learning initiatives, which aim to enhance access for disadvantaged populations. These ~~programs~~ [programmes] have shown promise in bridging the educational divide, permitting children a chance to learn and grow without the constraints of their circumstances.

Economic Impact: A Global Perspective

The economic impact of poverty extends beyond individual suffering; it is a significant barrier to global prosperity. The United Nations estimates that every percentage point increase in poverty results in a corresponding drop in a country's economic growth. When large portions of a population are unable to participate in or contribute to the economy, entire nations suffer the consequences. Raising people out of poverty is not merely a humanitarian imperative but a strategic economic goal that benefits all members of society. Investments in infrastructure, job creation, and social safety nets are essential to reducing poverty on a large scale. ~~Programs~~ [Programmes] that support microfinance, vocational training, and entrepreneurship can provide pathways for individuals to elevate themselves and, in turn, stimulate local economies.

A Call to Action #3

As we reflect on the pervasive issue of poverty, it is crucial to recognize our role in addressing it. Governments, ~~organizations~~ [organisations], and individuals each have a part to play in fostering systemic change. By advocating for policies that promote education, healthcare access, and economic opportunity, we can work toward a world where poverty is not an enduring reality but a challenge that we can overcome. Together, we can champion the movement towards ending poverty, ensuring that future generations inherit a world defined not by inequality and hardship, but by opportunity and justice. It is time to act, to shine a light on this critical issue, and to invest in a future where everyone can thrive.