Section 1:

#1 "Sitting in your sweat drenched seat. The pressure is building up inside you. The timer is ticking. Tick. Tick. Tick. Your future depends on this test. What if you don't pass? What if you do? Being under the pressure of being in a plain test room is very common to many people."

Strengths:

- Your opening uses vivid sensory details that immediately pull the reader into the experience.
- You've created an effective emotional connection by addressing the reader directly.

Limited vocabulary range  $\rightarrow$  Your writing uses repetitive words like "pressure" multiple times in this section. You could expand your vocabulary to describe the testing experience with more varied and precise terms. The repeated use of phrases like "under pressure" weakens the impact of your argument.

## Exemplar: *The clock's unrelenting countdown echoes through the silent room as you grip your pen, palms clammy with anxiety. Your entire academic future seems to balance precariously on this single assessment.*

#2 "Secondly, your mental state. The pressure! The timer! The goosebumps! The sweating! All signs that you are dying under pressure! Pressure can make your mental health deteriorate meaning more panicked emotions than happy carefree emotions."

Strengths:

- Your use of exclamation marks creates an energetic tone that emphasises the urgency of the issue.
- You've identified an important aspect of testing its impact on mental wellbeing.

Underdeveloped reasoning  $\rightarrow$  Your paragraph consists mainly of emotional statements without specific evidence or examples. You mention mental health deteriorating but don't explain how project-based assessments would specifically improve mental health outcomes for students.

## Exemplar: Research shows that extended project work distributes stress more evenly throughout the term, allowing students to manage their anxiety levels while developing valuable coping strategies that benefit them beyond the classroom.

#3 "Lastly, tests are just a snapshot of the student's skill. Tests last for like thirty minutes and then you're out of there. No interview. Just a test. This short test cannot just show all your real potentials!"

Strengths:

- You've identified a key limitation of traditional testing with the "snapshot" metaphor.
- Your writing shows passion and conviction about the subject.

Informal language and structure  $\rightarrow$  Your writing uses casual phrases like "for like thirty minutes" and "you're out of there," which reduce the persuasiveness of your argument. The short, fragmented sentences ("No interview. Just a test.") make your writing seem less developed than it could be.

Exemplar: Traditional examinations, often lasting merely 30 minutes, capture only a limited glimpse of a student's capabilities, whereas project-based assessments allow educators to evaluate skills that develop over time, including research methodology, creative problem-solving, and practical application of knowledge.

■ Your persuasive piece shows enthusiasm and genuine concern for student wellbeing, which gives your writing an authentic voice. To strengthen your argument, you need to balance emotional appeals with specific examples and evidence. For instance, in your first paragraph, try explaining exactly how project-based assessments encourage creativity with a concrete example. Your second paragraph could benefit from explaining how projects distribute stress more healthily than exams. Also, consider addressing potential counterarguments - what might defenders of traditional exams say, and how would you respond? Try to organise your thoughts more clearly by using topic sentences that directly state each paragraph's main point. Adding transition words like "furthermore" and "consequently" would help connect your ideas more smoothly. Remember that persuasive writing is strongest when it combines emotional appeal with logical reasoning and specific details.

## Score: 41/50

## Section 2:

Traditional exams should be replaced by project based exams

Sitting in your sweat drenched seat. The pressure is building up inside you. The timer is ticking. Tick. Tick. Tick. Your future depends on this test. What if you don't pass? What if you do? Being under the pressure of being in a plain test room is very common to many people. The timer and the sweating are all very familiar but the pressure is too heavy. You are literally getting crushed under pressure and the fact that you have to take a test where you have to sit and do the test which is really, really scary because you are just trying to do the test but you cannot, seeing the hard things stuffed on one piece of paper. That's why we should replace traditional exams with project based tests. #1

Firstly, the amount of fun. Sitting in a blank, plain room is not fun whereas doing an exciting project with your pals is! You can unlock your inner creativity when you are doing a project and you can express yourself through a singular project. This can help your creativity to reach the max. It's also quite fun making the design and doing research because you cannot limit your research and you aren't

under the massive pressure of tests and the studying of tests. You can also add some aspects of the real world to your project unlike traditional tests.

Secondly, your mental state. The pressure! The timer! The goosebumps! The sweating! All signs that you are dying under pressure! Pressure can make your mental health deteriorate meaning more panicked emotions than happy carefree emotions. This is not okay. We should have kids that act like the kids they are, not kids with panic disorder! Life isn't about panicking about everything, it's about enjoying everything while it lasts. The studying of tests can provoke stress and make the kid super paranoid of failing. Pressure really spikes when you are doing the real test. Believe it or not it doesn't feel very nice. #2

Lastly, tests are just a snapshot of the student's skill. Tests last for like [approximately] thirty minutes and then you're out of there. No interview. Just a test. This short test cannot just show all your real potentials! You need to do a project to really understand the kid. Not a short test with thirty questions! That's why we need to replace traditional tests with projects. Projects help the marker understand the kid and actually give accurate responses. Not just some response based on one small test. This is beneficial for the marker and the kid. The best kind of marking is one that benefits the most. #3

In conclusion, we definitely need to replace traditional tests with projects or the kid's mental health is doomed and the marking system is also doomed. We need to take action now and change the tests into the best *it* [they] can be! Help us make the lives of kids and the markers easier and more fun today!