

Section 1:

#1 "Imagine this, students sitting examining in a large room all crowded up with their breath becoming faster from anxiety, their hands shaking from hours of tiring writing and struggling to write anymore with their heads clouded. This is the reality for all students doing traditional exams."

Strengths:

- You create a vivid image that helps readers connect emotionally with your argument
- Your opening effectively establishes the problem with traditional exams

Weakness: Incomplete sentence structure → The first sentence is a fragment rather than a complete thought. It begins with "Imagine this," but doesn't have a proper main clause to complete the idea. This makes it harder for your reader to follow your thinking clearly.

Exemplar: *Imagine this: students sit in a large examination hall, crowded together with anxiety causing their breathing to quicken, their hands shaking from hours of exhausting writing as they struggle to continue with clouded minds.*

#2 "Another important reason to use projects is that they reduce stress. Many students feel very anxious before exams, and some even panic during the test. This can affect their performances in the test, even if they know the content well. Exams also don't give students a chance to improve or show growth. With projects, students can receive feedback, and make improvements. This creates a fairer and more supportive way to learn and grow."

Strengths:

- You make a clear point about the negative impact of exam stress
- You explain the advantage of projects allowing for improvement through feedback

Weakness: Repeated paragraph → You've included nearly identical paragraphs about stress reduction, with one appearing twice with slight variations. This repetition weakens your argument by making it seem less carefully crafted and organised.

Exemplar: *Projects significantly reduce the stress associated with traditional exams. Many students experience intense anxiety during tests, which can severely impact their performance regardless of their knowledge. Unlike exams, project-based assessments provide opportunities for feedback and improvement, creating a more supportive learning environment that better reflects real growth.*

#3 "Finally, projects make learning more enjoyable and meaningful. When students are given the chance to explore topics in depth, they often become more interested and engaged in it. Instead of

cramming for a test and forgetting everything after, students remember what they've learned because they've got involved in something real like solving an actual issue. School is a place where everything should be fun and enjoyable, not stressful."

Strengths:

- You effectively connect enjoyment with better learning outcomes
- You contrast memorisation with deeper, more lasting understanding

Weakness: Underdeveloped point → While you mention that projects make learning more enjoyable, you don't provide specific examples of project types or how they might engage students differently than exams. This limits the persuasiveness of your argument.

Exemplar: *Finally, projects transform learning into an enjoyable and meaningful experience. When students design their own experiments to test scientific principles, create multimedia presentations on historical events, or develop community service initiatives, they become genuinely invested in their learning. These hands-on experiences create lasting understanding that simple memorisation for exams cannot match.*

■ Your piece presents a strong argument for project-based assessments with several good points about their benefits. To strengthen your writing, try to add more specific examples throughout. For instance, in your second paragraph about deeper learning, you could describe a specific science project where students design experiments rather than just mentioning climate change research. Your introduction could be more focused by stating your main argument immediately rather than starting with the descriptive scene. Also, consider addressing potential concerns about project-based assessment more thoroughly in your paragraph about measurement. You could explain how project rubrics can ensure fair grading. The paragraph about developing life skills would be stronger if you included quotes from employers about the importance of teamwork and problem-solving. Finally, try to combine your ideas about stress reduction into one clear, well-developed paragraph instead of repeating similar points.

Score: 41/50

Section 2:

Imagine this[:]students sitting ~~examining~~ [in examinations] in a large room all crowded up with their breath becoming faster from anxiety, their hands shaking from hours of tiring writing and struggling to write anymore with their heads clouded. This is the reality for all students doing traditional exams. But in today's world, schools need to do more than just teach facts to students, they must prepare them for real-life situations. That's why I believe schools should replace traditional exams with project-based assessments. Projects allow students to show what they've learned in creative and practical ways. ¶

~~encourages~~ [They encourage] deeper understanding, ~~helps~~ [help] develop useful life skills and ~~reduces~~ [reduce] the pressure that comes with traditional exams.

Initially, project-based assessments lead to deeper learning. Traditional exams usually focus on remembering facts that students would forget soon after. On the other hand, project-based assessments actually apply real-life situations for the students to learn, which they will use in their futures. For example, instead of writing an essay on climate change, students could research their local area issues and design a solution to help. This is more efficient because students are actively thinking and solving problems, not just writing facts onto a piece of paper.

Secondly, projects help students build important life skills that exams simply can't teach. When actually working, adults rarely sit alone and write timed tests like students. Instead, they collaborate with each other, think and solve problems. These are the skills that projects encourage. With project-based assessments, students [practise] time management, research, teamwork, and communication. These crucial skills do far more than just school work.

~~#2 Another important reason to use projects is that they reduce stress. Many students feel very anxious before exams, and some even panic during the test. This can affect their performances in the test, even if they know the content well. Exams also don't give students a chance to improve or show growth. With projects, students can receive feedback, and make improvements. This creates a fairer and more supportive way to learn and grow.~~ [Another significant advantage of projects is stress reduction. Many students experience overwhelming anxiety before exams, with some suffering panic attacks during tests. This anxiety can significantly impair their performance, regardless of their knowledge of the subject matter. Unlike exams, projects provide students with opportunities to receive feedback and make improvements over time, creating a more equitable and supportive assessment method.]

~~#3 Another important reason to use projects is that they reduce stress. Would you want to be sitting there with your stomach twisted into knots and be struggling during a test? Many students feel anxious before exams, and some even have panic attacks during the test. This can affect their performance, even if they know the content well. Exams also don't give students a chance to improve or show growth. With projects, students can work over time, receive feedback, and make improvements. This creates a fairer and more supportive way to assess learning.~~ [Finally, projects transform learning into an enjoyable and meaningful experience. When students engage with practical, real-world challenges through project work, they develop genuine interest in the subject matter. Rather than memorising information solely for an exam and promptly forgetting it, students retain knowledge because they've applied it to authentic situations. School should foster enthusiasm for learning, not create unnecessary stress and anxiety.]

~~Finally, projects make learning more enjoyable and meaningful. When students are given the chance to explore topics in depth, they often become more interested and engaged in it. Instead of cramming for a test and forgetting everything after, students remember what they've learned because they've got involved in something real like solving an actual issue. School is a place where everything should be fun and enjoyable, not stressful.~~ [Additionally, projects make learning more enjoyable and meaningful. When students have opportunities to explore topics in depth, they typically become more interested and

engaged with the material. Rather than cramming for exams only to forget the information afterwards, students retain knowledge through involvement in authentic problem-solving. School should be an environment where learning is engaging and fulfilling, not merely stressful.]

Some argue that exams provide ~~measurement~~ [measurements] of student progress equally. However[,] replacing traditional exams with project-based assessments allows for a fairer evaluation of skills like creativity, collaboration, and critical thinking. Projects reflect real-world tasks and give students time to fully demonstrate their understanding, making it a more accurate way to see students' progress.

~~#1 In conclusion, schools should replace traditional exams with project-based assessments. Projects encourage deeper learning, help students gain valuable skills, and reduce the anxiety caused by traditional tests. And most importantly, they prepare students for the real world, where teamwork and creativity matters way more than remembering facts. If we want students to succeed both in and out of school, it's time to make the exams project-based.~~ [In conclusion, schools should replace traditional exams with project-based assessments. These projects foster deeper understanding, help students develop essential skills, and significantly reduce the anxiety associated with conventional testing methods. Most importantly, they prepare students for life beyond school, where collaboration and innovation are far more valuable than mere memorisation. If we truly want our students to thrive both academically and personally, transitioning to project-based assessment is essential.]