Section 1:

#1 "First and foremost, art isn't fundamental – when a child gets thrown across the road by a speeding car, what can art do? Performing, dancing, singing or painting can't revive this kid; but science can. Phones are what calls the ambulances. Fluids are what keeps this child alive. Surgery are what makes the little one survive."

Strengths:

- Strong opening with a rhetorical question that immediately engages the reader
- Effective use of short, impactful sentences that build a compelling argument

Weakness: Overreliance on emotive scenarios  $\rightarrow$  Your argument relies heavily on an extreme scenario to dismiss the value of art. This creates a false dichotomy where science and art are presented as competing rather than complementary forces. Consider acknowledging how both can coexist while still maintaining your position that science has priority in certain contexts.

## Exemplar: First and foremost, while art enriches our lives through expression and beauty, science addresses our most fundamental survival needs. When faced with medical emergencies, scientific advancements in communication technology, medical treatments and surgical techniques are what save lives.

#2 "A blank hospital ward contains a small child wheezing carefully. Sitting at his bedstand, he sees the small clear IV sachet containing that valuable, life-preserving fluid. He grins a little, winces hard. The iron lung case is hard, but a steady, quiet hug. He can feel his heart beating. He's still alive."

Strengths:

- Vivid imagery that creates a powerful emotional response
- Effective use of short sentences to create a rhythm that mimics breathing

Weakness: Limited connection to main argument  $\rightarrow$  While your descriptive paragraph paints a powerful image, it doesn't clearly connect back to your main argument about scientific advancements versus artistic expression. The narrative needs stronger links to your central thesis to strengthen its persuasive impact.

Exemplar: The child in the hospital ward owes his life not to artistic expression, but to scientific advancements. The IV drip delivering essential fluids, the monitoring equipment tracking his vital signs, and the medications easing his breathing are all products of scientific research and development that directly improve human survival.

#3 "Critics may contend that self-expression encourages freedom of choice and expressing yourself. Arts can be passion, leisure or business, can be a great talent that many people have, and a fantastic learning experience that scientific advancements may not be able to achieve yet. However, there are limitations to the greatness of arts."

Strengths:

- Acknowledges opposing viewpoints, showing awareness of counter-arguments
- Recognises some positive aspects of arts before presenting limitations

Weakness: Underdeveloped counter-argument  $\rightarrow$  Your counter-argument lacks depth and specific examples. You mention limitations to arts but don't fully explain what these limitations are or how they relate to your main argument about scientific advancement being more beneficial.

Exemplar: While the arts undeniably provide outlets for creativity, emotional expression and cultural identity, they cannot address humanity's fundamental survival needs. Scientific advancements in medicine, agriculture and technology have extended human lifespans, reduced suffering, and solved critical problems that artistic expression alone cannot address.

■ Your piece presents a passionate case for the importance of scientific advancements over artistic expression. You've used some powerful examples and imagery to support your position. To strengthen your argument, try adding more specific examples of scientific advancements with measurable impacts. For instance, you could mention how medical innovations like antibiotics or vaccines have saved millions of lives. Also, consider acknowledging that art and science aren't necessarily opposing forces—they often work together in fields like medical illustration, science communication and technological design. Your third paragraph about the child in hospital could be connected more clearly to your main argument by directly stating how each element (IV fluids, medical equipment) represents scientific progress. Additionally, when addressing counter-arguments about the value of art, provide concrete reasons why you believe these benefits are less fundamental than scientific ones, rather than simply stating there are "limitations." Remember to check your writing for consistency in tense and subject-verb agreement to ensure your message comes across clearly.

Score: 44/50

Section 2:

Self-Expression or Scientific Advancements?

One slip. One fall. How would this be fatal, just one little mistake? Yet it still is – and there isn't any cure. Even for punctured lungs, brain damage or just simply one broken arm. How haven't we been finding these answers? How can we already be making artificial blood, but not knowing how to pull out

a tooth easily? We should be advanced enough, and if not, where can we get those solutions from? This is just precisely why scientific advancements are the fundamental building blocks a society needs, as it is [they are] much more beneficial than arts, crucial to understand, and directly improves [improve] health.

#1 First and foremost, art isn't fundamental – when a child gets thrown across the road by a speeding car, what can art do? Performing, dancing, singing or painting can't revive this kid; but science can. Phones are what calls [call] the ambulances. Fluids are what keeps [keep] this child alive. Surgery are [Surgeries are] what makes [make] the little one survive. Yes, self-expression can make the time in the bleak hospital ward a little more bearable, but without the basic sciences behind the clinic... the youngster wouldn't have a chance to express themselves again. Scientific advancement is overall more beneficial than self-expression.

Doctors, surgeons, scientists, biologists, chemists and more – if none of them understood scientific advancements at all, then we wouldn't be where we are now. Take Newton, one of the most famous scientists, and his theory of gravity. If he didn't understand science, then we would probably still be believing that a supernatural force was holding us to the earth. A paper by Understanding Science states that 'scientific advancement allows us to develop new technologies, solve practical problems and make informed decisions.' Many inventions, such as the famous light bulb, telephones, antibiotics, the computer, the internet, GPS, 3D printing, rocket technology, automobiles and more are all well-known inventions that couldn't have been invented without scientific advancements.

#2 A blank hospital ward contains a small child wheezing carefully. Sitting at his bedstand [bedside], he sees the small clear IV sachet containing that valuable, life-preserving fluid. He grins a little, winces hard. The iron lung case is hard, but a steady, quiet hug. He can feel his heart beating. He's still alive. All over the world, every year, science has saved over 3 million lives, from antibiotics to surgery to defibrillators. The World Health Organisation (WHO) estimates that around millions of lives are saved annually – and about 154 million people have been saved just using vaccines over the past 50 years. Much of this number comes from health organisations and charities, like Bill and Melinda Gates' Gates Foundation that has helped to save over 122 million lives so far. Scientific advancements have saved so many people over millennia, even from the ancient people's herb remedies to the modern-day antibiotics. Every number from these sums is one less grave, one less heartbroken family, one less tragedy.

#3 Critics may contend that self-expression encourages freedom of choice and expressing yourself. Arts can be passion, leisure or business, can be a great talent that many people have, and a fantastic learning experience that scientific advancements may not be able to achieve yet. However, there are limitations to the greatness of arts. We must admit that there is no true freedom. In our modern, busy world, rules are a regular and there is always a whirlwind of them surrounding us. Even in the simpler ancient days, there are [Even in the simpler ancient days, there were] still the rules of nature. There's gravity, there's seasons, there's why we all look like what we look like. Yes, paired with science, the world can truly become a better place, but individually it cannot.

To conclude, scientific advancement is far more valuable to society than artistic self-expression, because it is way more advantageous than arts, fundamental to understand, and dramatically improves health. Every improvement counts. Every decision is crucial. Every idea is inventive. We need to recognise the scientific reality behind everything that we see, and further beyond.