Writing Feedback

TERM 2 - 2025 | WEEK 8 - Writing | Year 4 Selective RW

Section 1:

#1 Strengths: Your opening paragraph effectively introduces the unconventional concept and establishes its potential benefits. You've created an intriguing hook that makes readers curious about how pillow forts could transform educational spaces.

Weakness: Disconnected ideas \rightarrow Your first paragraph jumps between multiple concepts without fully developing any of them. For instance, you write about "transforming boring educational spaces" but then immediately shift to "changing our understanding of learning environments" without clearly connecting these ideas. The sentence "This creative approach changes our understanding of learning environments, moving beyond traditional structures to embrace flexibility, creativity, and social engagement" contains multiple big ideas that deserve more explanation.

Exemplar: Pillow fort towns within school buildings offer a surprisingly effective solution to several educational challenges. This creative approach transforms conventional classrooms into dynamic, community-friendly spaces that embrace flexibility, creativity, and meaningful social engagement.

#2 Strengths: You effectively highlight the practical benefits of pillow fort towns for skill development. Your explanation of how this activity promotes teamwork and problem-solving is compelling.

Weakness: Run-on sentences \rightarrow The sentence "Imagine this: school teachers and students are working together designing and building living spaces for others, constantly providing a safe and usable living space using limited resources that include pillows, blankets and any other soft flexible materials" is too long and contains multiple ideas without proper punctuation. This makes it difficult for readers to follow your reasoning and weakens the impact of your points about skill development.

Exemplar: Imagine this scenario: teachers and students collaborate to design and build functional living spaces. Working with limited resources like pillows, blankets and soft materials, they create safe, comfortable environments while developing crucial problem-solving skills.

#3 Strengths: Your conclusion effectively ties the concept to broader social benefits and community building. You've highlighted how pillow fort towns could address isolation and encourage meaningful connections.

Weakness: Repetitive language → You repeatedly use words like "fun," "safe," and "comfortable" without varying your vocabulary. For example, in "The act of building and inhabiting a shared, fun, safe and engaging space naturally encourages teamwork, communication, and helpful, kind support everywhere," the adjectives pile up without adding depth. This repetition makes your writing sound less sophisticated and reduces its impact.

Exemplar: The collaborative process of constructing and inhabiting communal spaces naturally fosters teamwork, effective communication, and mutual support. In our increasingly isolated society, these pillow fort communities could become powerful tools for strengthening social bonds and rebuilding struggling local communities.

■ Your piece presents a creative and interesting concept, but needs more depth and organisation to fully convince readers. Try focusing on fewer main points and developing each one more thoroughly. Also, consider adding specific examples of how pillow fort towns might work in practice - perhaps describe what a typical day might look like or how the transition between school use and community use would be managed. Your writing would be stronger if you addressed potential challenges or objections to the idea. Additionally, you could strengthen your argument by considering who would be responsible for supervision, maintenance and safety in these spaces. Your creativity shines through, but grounding your ideas with practical considerations would make them more compelling. Try breaking up longer sentences into shorter ones to help your reader follow your thinking more easily.

Score: 42/50

Section 2:

Pillow fort towns within school buildings, while seemingly whimsical, offer a surprisingly good solution to several common challenges, transforming boring educational spaces into dynamic, community-friendly hubs. #1 This ereative approach changes our understanding of learning environments, moving beyond traditional structures to embrace flexibility, ereativity, and social engagement. [This innovative concept reshapes our perception of learning environments by moving beyond conventional structures to foster flexibility, creativity and meaningful community engagement.]

Firstly, such a change removes the issue of underutilised school buildings outside of school hours and during the school holidays. Instead of sitting empty and unused, these buildings could become vibrant, temporary homes or fun areas, particularly beneficial for homeless populations, temporary workers, children on school holidays, or even as unique tourist attractions or motels. The easy adaptability of pillow forts that are easily built and taken down, allows for well maintainable area usage and arrangements [enables efficient space management and flexible arrangements], allowing for different needs and events during school holidays.

Secondly, a pillow fort town provides unmatched creativity and problem-solving skills. #2 Imagine this:sehool teachers and students are working together designing and building living spaces for others, constantly providing a safe and usable living space using limited resources that include pillows, blankets and any other soft flexible materials. [Imagine this: school teachers and students collaborate to design and construct living spaces, creating safe and functional environments using limited resources such as pillows, blankets and various soft, flexible materials.] This hands-on, creative and fun process

that encourages being original and creative as well as working as a team. [encourages originality, innovation and teamwork.] This would help students understand spatial design far more effectively than dull old school experiences. Children and adults would engage in helpful educational play, developing critical thinking and engineering features in a fun and safe environment.

Finally, these structures encourage a profound sense of belonging. #3 The act of building and inhabiting a shared, fun, safe and engaging space naturally encourages teamwork, communication, and helpful, kind support everywhere. [The process of constructing and occupying a communal, engaging environment naturally fosters collaboration, effective communication and mutual support throughout the community.] In an increasingly isolated world, pillow fort towns could serve as an important tool to encourage teamwork, resulting in friendly, well maintained connections and rebuilding local communities that are poor or are facing crisis or poverty. They offer a unique opportunity to rebuild and reimagine our public spaces. Instead of being viewed as rigid, permanent and boring facilities, but as adaptable, imaginative landscapes that prioritize human connection and playful, safe and comfortable innovation. [Rather than viewing these spaces as rigid, permanent facilities, we can reimagine them as adaptable, creative environments that prioritize human connection and innovative, comfortable design.]