Writing Feedback

TERM 2 - 2025 | Day 4 - Writing Homework | Year 5 Reading & Writing

Section 1:

#1 Strengths: Your opening effectively poses an intriguing question about a sixth sense, which creates reader interest. You've also introduced a creative concept of "sensism" as your sixth sense.

Weakness: Underdeveloped concept introduction → Your explanation of what the sixth sense actually is remains vague. The statement "This would be like another way to interact!" doesn't clearly establish what sensism is before you jump to its function of sensing danger. The connection between a general "sixth sense" and specifically "sensing danger" needs more development.

Exemplar: A sixth sense would allow humans to perceive things beyond our five traditional senses. This new sense, which I call "sensism," would specifically allow us to detect danger from up to five hundred metres away—like an internal alarm system that alerts us before we see, hear, smell, touch or taste the threat.

#2 Strengths: You've thoughtfully included both advantages and disadvantages of your proposed sixth sense, showing balanced thinking. Your examples of how sensism could prevent crimes are concrete.

Weakness: Limited exploration of benefits \rightarrow Your list of benefits focuses solely on danger prevention without exploring other potential applications. The repetition of safety benefits (protection from robbers, kidnapping, general dangers) makes your argument one-dimensional.

Exemplar: Sensism would not only save us from danger but could also enhance our daily lives. Banks would close before robberies occur, keeping people safe. We would avoid being kidnapped or walking into dangerous areas. Additionally, sensism might help us find lost people in disasters or detect when someone is lying to us.

#3 Strengths: Your conclusion acknowledges the complexity of your idea by weighing pros and cons, which shows mature thinking. You effectively use a reflective tone to leave readers contemplating the implications.

Weakness: Abrupt conclusion without resolution \rightarrow Your conclusion suddenly shifts from discussing drawbacks to suggesting we shouldn't have this sense, without fully resolving the central question or offering a nuanced final position. The phrase "for now" hints at more thinking but doesn't explain under what conditions sensism might be beneficial.

Exemplar: While the ability to sense danger would protect us in many situations, the stress of constant alerts and sleep disruption might create more problems than solutions. Perhaps instead of a constant sixth sense, humans would benefit more from a controlled ability that we could turn on when needed and off when resting.

■ Your piece shows creativity in imagining a new human sense, which is fantastic. To strengthen your writing, try exploring your sensism concept in more depth—what exactly is happening in our bodies when we sense danger? Also, consider expanding beyond just danger detection to other possible uses of a sixth sense. You could discuss how animals like sharks can sense electrical fields or how some people claim to have intuition that works like a sixth sense. The structure of your piece would be stronger with clearer paragraphs—one for introducing the concept, one for benefits, one for drawbacks, and a conclusion that weighs everything together. Additionally, adding specific examples or scenarios would help readers visualise how sensism would actually work in everyday life. Try creating a brief story about someone using their sixth sense to avoid danger as a way to make your concept more vivid.

Score: 39/50

Section 2:

Children know there are five senses. But what if a sixth sense were to be a thing? What would it do? How would it be effective to us humans? Let me explain all that complicated stuff. #1

A sixth sense would mean we would interact with something without seeing, smelling, tasting, feeling and hearing. This would be like another way to interact! It would be sensism. That would mean you can sense danger up to five hundred metres away.

Sensism would save us from danger. A robber – banks would close in time. We would be safe from being kidnapped. It protects us. Less danger would happen to everyone. We would not be afraid of dangers. These are just some pros though. There are cons too though. #2

First of all, we sense danger at midnight, we do not [we would not] sleep well. It would be more difficult to focus. The alert wakes us up which makes us in risk [puts us at risk]. It is stressful. It can give you nightmares on danger when it is not real but is feared and imagined to be real. Sensism can also cause false alarms. This is bad things if this sixth sense was real [These would be the negative consequences if this sixth sense were real].

We clearly may need this sense, but there are consequences of having this sense. The five main senses may be better if this sixth sense was not here. Maybe we should not have this sixth sense-for now. [We might benefit from this sense, but we must consider the consequences of having it. The five main senses might serve us better without this sixth sense interfering. Perhaps we should not develop this sixth sense—at least not yet. #3