Term 3 - 2025: Week 6 - Writing Homework | Year 5 Scholarship Specialisation

## **Section 1:**

#1 - Opening paragraph ("Imagine a world where all that's left...")

**Strengths:** Your piece creates a vivid picture that helps readers understand what sitting in class feels like. You've used descriptive language that makes the experience feel real and relatable.

**Weakness:** Unclear focus  $\rightarrow$  Your opening jumps between many different complaints (sitting posture, teacher's voice, noisy students) without connecting them clearly to your main argument about standing desks. The ideas feel scattered rather than building towards your solution.

**Exemplar:** Instead of listing multiple problems, you could focus on one main issue: "Imagine spending six hours each day trapped in an uncomfortable chair, feeling your energy drain away as your body becomes stiff and sore."

#2 - Middle section ("And there is absolutely no way in the history of schools...")

**Strengths:** You show enthusiasm for your topic and use strong, energetic language that conveys how frustrated students feel about traditional classrooms.

**Weakness:** Weak supporting evidence  $\rightarrow$  You mention that "almost 90% of students either feel discouraged or have loads of pain" but don't explain where this information comes from or provide concrete details about how standing stations would actually solve these problems.

**Exemplar:** "Research shows that students who use standing desks report feeling more alert and engaged during lessons, with fewer complaints of back pain and restlessness."

#3 - Conclusion ("If we kicked out the chairs...")

**Strengths:** You clearly state the benefits you believe standing stations would provide, showing you understand the positive changes you want to see.

**Weakness:** Vague reasoning → Your conclusion mentions that work would "get better scores" and students wouldn't "go home in sorrow," but you don't explain the specific connection between standing desks and these improvements.

**Exemplar:** "Standing stations would allow students to move naturally throughout the day, helping them stay focused and alert, which could lead to better concentration and improved learning outcomes."

■ Your piece shows genuine passion for improving the classroom experience, which is wonderful to see. You've identified a real problem that many students face and proposed a creative solution. However, your argument needs stronger support and clearer organisation to be more convincing. Currently, your ideas jump around quite a bit, making it hard for readers to follow your main points. Additionally, you could strengthen your argument by explaining exactly how standing desks work and providing more specific reasons why they help students learn better. Also, your writing would benefit from smoother connections between your ideas - try using words like "furthermore," "however," or "as a result" to help readers follow your thinking. Consider focusing on two or three main benefits of standing desks rather than mentioning many different problems. This will help you develop each point more thoroughly and make your argument more powerful.

Overall Score: 40/50

## **Section 2:**

Classrooms should replace traditional desks with standing or "movement" stations

Imagine a world where all that's left in the 6 hours for 5 days a week in your life is sitting down, immovable, and listening to the awful drone of the teachers voice that can bore a lion to death a mile away. You can imagine it? [Imagine spending six hours a day, five days a week, sitting motionless in uncomfortable chairs whilst listening to monotonous teaching that feels endless. Can you picture this scenario?] Listen to yourself. [Consider the reality of this situation.] We're talking about trying to sit straight for 6 hours, with back and neck problems killing you bit by bit [developing gradually]. And if you are out to say, "but what if we sit straight?", then good luck trying to stay like that the entire time. [Even when students attempt to maintain proper posture, sustaining this position for extended periods proves extremely challenging.] Every moment of your life spent in that ugly [uncomfortable] chair and table, with either a straight back – and for safety reasons, you don't want to stay like that – or a hunched back. And both cause pain. [Both positions result in physical discomfort.] Then there's the chatter. There are always those kids [students] at the back who throw objects around like it's a basketball life or death game, and the kids [students] who poke everyone they can find and just talk to each other endlessly – it's a miracle they don't lose their voices. And there is absolutely no way in the history of schools in the history of human civilisations that you can forget the teachers teaching. [Furthermore, the teaching methods often contribute to student disengagement.] Their voices can cause the sun to run away in fear! They drone on and on, and when you think it's finally over, you realise [realise] only the first half of an [an] hour has passed. When you realise recess is on [begins], you run

around and finish your food. When you're about to start really doing stuff, the bell rings, and all you can think is – REALLY?! WHY??!! [This creates frustration and disappointment.]

Well, there's actually one simple way to combat all of this. Its. To. Replace. The chairs and tables!!! [The solution involves replacing traditional chairs and tables with alternative seating arrangements.] I know, surprise hit you like a truck. [This suggestion might seem unexpected.] But if we took [removed] those nasty [problematic] things away and replaced them with implemented standing or movement stations, it would be the path to freedom! Students might look forward to school, knowing they won't be sitting in a prison, rotting away their back and neck with aches and pains. The teachers [teacher's] droning voices might seem to last less, and you could actually have a great break time for once!

It is said that almost 90% of students either feel discouraged or have <del>loads</del> [significant amounts] of pain in their body for [by the time] when they get home. They even had cognitive errors in their work as they didn't feel any happiness or motivation in school. If we kicked out the chairs and put in the freedom stations, their work and assignments would get better scores, and students wouldn't need to go home in sorrow that they're too seared to show [feeling defeated about their academic performance].