Term 3 - 2025: Week 6 - Writing Homework | Year 5 Selective Reading & Writing

Section 1:

#1 (First paragraph: "Elementary school should be a safe place...limited in schools.")

Strengths: Your opening clearly states your position against competitive sports and provides a preview of your main arguments. You've also included a strong personal statement about your passion for the topic.

Weakness: Unclear argument structure \rightarrow Your main points aren't presented in a logical order, and some ideas overlap. The phrase "it leads to being competitive to your peers, which is quite harmful" introduces your argument, but then you jump between stress, conflicts, and injuries without clear organisation.

Exemplar: "Competitive sports in elementary school create three main problems: they damage friendships through unhealthy competition, cause serious physical injuries, and harm students' emotional wellbeing through constant pressure to win."

#2 (Second paragraph: "First and Foremost...safety, learning, wellbeing, and fun.")

Strengths: You use engaging rhetorical questions that help readers connect personally with the issue. Your examples of being laughed at and called names are relatable to your audience.

Weakness: Weak supporting evidence → Your argument relies mainly on rhetorical questions without providing concrete examples or explaining why these conflicts specifically happen in competitive sports. The phrase "Conflicts happen, friendships collapse" needs more detailed support about how competition directly causes these problems.

Exemplar: "When students focus only on winning, they begin to see their classmates as enemies rather than teammates, leading to arguments over mistakes and blame when games are lost."

#3 (Fourth paragraph: "Moreover, losing games...depression, failure, and even PTSD.")

Strengths: You address an important emotional aspect that many people don't consider. Your point about playing for others rather than yourself shows good insight into peer pressure.

Weakness: Unsupported serious claims → You mention severe mental health conditions like "depression" and "PTSD" without explaining how losing school sports games could actually lead to these serious disorders. This weakens your argument's credibility.

Exemplar: "Constantly losing games can make students feel discouraged and want to avoid sports altogether, which isn't healthy for their confidence or willingness to try new activities."

■ Your piece tackles an interesting topic that many students can relate to, and you show genuine passion for protecting young people's wellbeing. However, your arguments would benefit from clearer organisation and stronger evidence. Currently, your points jump around between different ideas, making it harder for readers to follow your logic. Additionally, you could strengthen your case by explaining more clearly how competitive sports directly cause the problems you mention, rather than assuming readers will make these connections themselves. Also, consider providing alternative solutions - what should schools do instead of competitive sports? Your emotional appeal is effective, but balancing it with more factual support would make your argument more convincing. Finally, your conclusion could be stronger by summarising your main points more clearly before restating your position.

Overall Score: 42/50			

Section 2:

Competitive sports? Nope! [Should Elementary Schools Ban Competitive Sports?]

Elementary school should be a safe place where students can express themselves, help others, stay active, and many more [much more]. While competitive sport benefits [sports benefit] you in many way [ways], it leads [they lead] to being competitive to [with] your peers, which is quite harmful at such a young age [.] because of [This happens because of] the stress of always being pressured to win, conflicts with your classmates, and being physically injured, which can be severe in some situations. Instead of being pushed to win all the time, students should be focusing on their education, wellbeing, and feelings. I passionately agree that competitive sports should be limited in schools. #1

First and Foremost [Firstly], competitive sports causes [cause] conflicts, bullying, and teasing between teams. Have you ever been laughed at because you lost the game, booed at because you let down your team, or even being [been] called a "cheater" by the other team? This is all because of competitive

sports. Instead of working together, it breaks [they break] them apart. Conflicts happen, friendships collapse, people [and some students] don't even want to go to school anymore. When playing competitive sport [sports], kindness and support go down the drain, and all people think about is winning. Thats [That's] not what school should be about—it should be about safety, learning, wellbeing, and fun. #2

Additionally, competitive sports may cause serious and fatal injuries, like broken bones, concussions, brain damage, and more. Playing sports usually involves a ball, and people tackle each other and injure each other to get a goal and win a point for their team. Imagine having a day at work only to find a call from your Childs [child's] school saying: "Please take your child to the hospital now [.] her [Her] head has been cracked open while playing competitive sports on the oval." No one wants to hear THAT!

Moreover, losing games in competitive sports makes you lose self-esteem and confidence in yourself. Signing up for a competition and losing is just enough to give up on yourself and lose confidence forever, and playing competitive sport [sports] doesn't help this. When you play, you don't play for yourself anymore, [.] you [You] play for your peers, your teachers, your coaches, and your parents, just to make them "happy." And when you lose a game, it feels like everyone in [on] your team hates you—like you've let EVERYONE down. This can lead to depression, failure, and even PTSD. #3

Ultimately, competitive sports leads [lead] to injuries, conflicts, bullying, and loss in [of] self-esteem and confidence. Losing isn't just about trying your best and improving anymore—it can feel like losing some of yourself. The pressure, the stress, the [and] conflicts can make you want to just give up and quit. That's why, without a doubt, that competitive sport [sports] should be very limited in primary school.