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

Section 1

#1 - Opening paragraph

Strengths: Your opening clearly states your position that schools should have standing desks, and you provide three solid reasons (movement, posture, health) that give readers a preview of your argument.

Weakness: Unclear sentence structure \rightarrow Your second sentence "This is because it gives students more room to move and they can move their legs if they want to stretch" repeats the idea of movement twice in a confusing way. The connection between your ideas needs to be clearer.

Exemplar: Standing desks would benefit schools because they allow students to move freely whilst learning, promote better posture, and support overall health.

#2 - First body paragraph about restless students

Strengths: You use a specific scenario with the teacher and brain breaks to help readers picture your point, which makes your argument more relatable.

Weakness: Repetitive ideas and poor flow \rightarrow You keep saying the same thing about students being restless and needing movement in different ways. Phrases like "students get restless a lot and need brain breaks" and then "lots of teachers sometimes give their students brain breaks" repeat similar ideas without adding new information.

Exemplar: Standing desks would help restless students by allowing them to move whilst learning, which could reduce the need for separate brain break time outside the classroom.

#3 - Final paragraph about health

Strengths: You mention specific health problems like diabetes and cancer, which shows you understand that sitting has serious consequences.

Weakness: Vague supporting details → When you write "Scientists belive that sitting around all day can increase risk of certain cancers, diabetes and many more health problems," you don't explain how standing desks specifically solve these problems or provide clear connections.

Exemplar: Research shows that prolonged sitting increases health risks, whilst standing improves blood circulation and energy levels, helping students stay alert during lessons.

■ Your piece shows you understand the main benefits of standing desks and you've organised your ideas into clear paragraphs with an introduction and conclusion. However, your writing would be stronger if you developed each point more thoroughly instead of repeating similar ideas. Additionally, you could improve by connecting your reasons more clearly to how standing desks specifically solve the problems you mention. Your argument would also benefit from smoother transitions between sentences - try using words like "furthermore," "moreover," or "in addition" to link your thoughts. Also, focus on explaining one clear benefit per paragraph rather than mixing several ideas together. Finally, check that each paragraph builds on the previous one to create a stronger overall argument.

Overall Score: 43/50

Section 2

#1 Many people at schools get restless and some want to go outside to play whilst it is learning time. This is why schools must get standing desks. This is because it gives students more room to move and they can move their legs if they want to stretch. [Many students at schools become restless during learning time and want to go outside to play. This is why schools must introduce standing desks, which give students more room to move and allow them to stretch their legs when needed.] It also gives better posture for students as when you sit some people hunch their shoulders which can cause spinal problems later in life. As well as that, sitting around all day isn't good for your health.

#2 As a first reason, students get restless a lot and need brain breaks, this why standing desks could be a big help with students. [As a first reason, students often become restless and need brain breaks, which is why standing desks could be tremendously helpful for students.] They could do some exercise inside the classroom such as jumping or marching on the spot as they learn or work. This can be helpful for many teachers as lots of teachers sometimes give their students brain breaks but if they have standing desks they could always do some jogging on the the spot [jogging on the spot]. Picture this, a teacher is taking their class out for a brain break. The next day they need to do work but none of the students are concentrating. If they had a standing desk the teacher could get them to do some jumping and running on the spot which takes up less time than going outside to play. This is for sure a good reason why standing desks should be put into schools.

A second reason is that standing desks are amazing to use at schools, is posture. [A second reason why standing desks are amazing to use at schools is improved posture.] Some people

when they sit hunch their backs which can cause back problems later in life. Lots of people then have to use canes or have neck problems when they are older just because of slouching or crouching down. Try sitting down on a chair. Don't lean against the back of the chair- if you do you won't be able to feel your spine and leaning against the back doesn't make a difference. Feel your spine when you sit. Does it curve forwards? Most of the time it does naturally which means you are slouching. This is definitely another reason to take in why classes need standing desks.

#3 Finally, many people believe [realise] that sitting all day isn't good for your health comfort [and comfort] can also be a big problem for many people. Scientists believe [believe] that sitting around all day can increase risk of certain cancers, diabetes and many more health problems. If you are standing you may not reduce your risk of any health problems but it is just naturally better for you because it improves blood circulation and energy, making you less tired and it makes sure that you concentrate better which many teachers would definitely approve of. This is definitely another reason why schools must have standing desks instead of making students sit.

In conclusion, in all classrooms it is compulsory that they have standing desks because, sitting all day is really bad for your health, posture improvements and many students need regular brain breaks. This must be why every single classroom must have standing desks in schools.