
Term 3 - 2025: Week 10 - Writing Homework | Year 5 Scholarship Specialisation

Section 1:

#1 "Have you seen and thought about the stress in children who are bombarded with a pile of homework? The burden of homework has been a big issue for children in recent years. However, we can prevent this strain with a single ban on homework."

Strengths: Your opening question engages the reader directly, and you clearly state your position early in the piece.

Weakness: Vague supporting evidence → Your opening makes broad claims about homework being "a big issue" without explaining what specific problems it causes or why this is happening now more than before.

Exemplar: "Research shows that 73% of primary school students report feeling overwhelmed by their weekly homework load, leading to sleep problems and anxiety."

#2 "This is proven by year 3 student Tetsukachi in Blairmount Public school. When the school removed school for a week he stated that he was substantially calmer than he was before when they gave homework weekly."

Strengths: You attempt to provide specific evidence with a real example, which shows good understanding of how arguments need support.

Weakness: Insufficient evidence scope → Using just one student's experience doesn't prove your point convincingly. A single person's feelings during one week cannot demonstrate that all students would benefit from permanently banning homework.

Exemplar: "A study of 200 students across five schools found that when homework was reduced by half, 85% reported feeling less stressed and performed better on classroom tests."

#3 "Critics argue that banning homework can slow down the development of children as they lose precious learning time. While this is true there can be replacement."

Strengths: You recognise opposing viewpoints and attempt to address them, which strengthens your argument structure.

Weakness: Weak rebuttal development → You acknowledge the critic's point is "true" but then don't explain clearly how your solution would actually work or why it would be as effective as homework.

Exemplar: "However, studies show that quality classroom instruction with teacher guidance is more effective than independent homework practice for primary school students."

■ Your piece tackles an interesting topic that many students can relate to, and you've organised your thoughts into a clear structure with an introduction, main points, counter-argument, and conclusion. However, your argument would be much stronger with more convincing evidence and deeper explanations. Currently, your supporting details are quite thin - relying on one student's experience isn't enough to prove such a big claim. Additionally, you need to develop your ideas more thoroughly. For example, when you mention obesity and bullying, you don't explain the clear connection between these issues and homework. Also, your counter-argument section needs more work - simply agreeing with critics and then suggesting a vague "replacement" doesn't convince readers that your solution would actually work. To improve your piece, focus on expanding your second paragraph with stronger evidence about stress, and develop your third paragraph by explaining exactly how increased sports time would help students' wellbeing and academic performance.

Score: 40/50

Section 2:

Have you seen and thought about the stress in children who are bombarded with a pile of homework? The burden of homework has been a big issue for children in recent years. However, we can prevent this strain with a single ban on homework. I believe banning homework not only removes stress from children but also creates time for co-curricular activities and can be substituted so that no learning time is lost. Let's [Let's] discuss and dive into why banning homework is so advantageous. #1

initially [Initially], banning homework relieves stress from students. This is proven by year [Year] 3 student Tetsukachi in [at] Blairmount Public school [School]. When the school removed school [homework] for a weekhe [, he] stated that he was substantially calmer than he was before when they gave homework weekly. The result of having no stress is that it can help students focus in classthen [, which leads to] leading to increased grades. This is the first reason why banning homework is so significant [.]

Additionally, banning homework leaves room for co-curricular such as [activities such as] sports or music. This suggested [is supported] as the University of Sydney have found that about half of their

[students'] week is used for homework, while sport is only a mere eighth of their weekend. If this is [pattern] continued then [,] it could ereate [result in] less activity for children resulting in [, leading to] obesity and $\frac{1}{4}$ [an] unhealthy lifestyle which [. This] could be detrimental to the wellbeing of the child because kids [other children] can bully them. This preventable [is preventable] if we just ban homework [.] #2

Critics argue that banning homework can slow down the development of children as they lose precious learning time. While this is truethere [, there] can be replacement [replacements]. Instead of homeworksehools [, schools] can explain subjects in the topics [and topics] more deeply until students are confident and enlightened about the topic. This is proven as students are found to be keen and quick learners when assisted by teacher aid [teacher aides]. #3

In conclusion, bann [banning homework would benefit all students by reducing stress, creating time for physical activities, and allowing for deeper classroom learning with proper teacher support.]