
Term 3 Holiday - 2025:Day 3 | 10-Day Intensive Selective Writing

Section 1:

#1: Opening paragraph ("It can feel over whelming... will love it here!")

Strengths:

- Your opening acknowledges that new students might feel nervous, which creates an empathetic and welcoming tone.
- The reassurance that students "will love it here" immediately helps ease worries.

Weakness: Spelling error and weak elaboration \rightarrow The word "over whelming" should be one word: "overwhelming." Additionally, whilst you mention the school is friendly and encourages personal growth, you could strengthen this section by adding one specific example of how the school creates this welcoming environment, such as mentioning a buddy system or orientation programme.

Exemplar: It can feel overwhelming going somewhere or doing anything new, but don't worry—you will love it here! Our school is friendly and runs a buddy programme where older students help new arrivals find their way around, so you'll never feel lost or alone.

#2: Point 2 about clubs and activities

Strengths:

- You provide varied examples of activities (music, drama, robotics, football), which shows the range of options available.
- The connection between joining clubs and making friends is clearly made.

Weakness: Lacks supporting detail → Whilst you mention that there's "something for everyone," you don't give any information about when or how students can join these activities. New students would benefit from knowing whether sign-ups happen at the beginning of term, if there are taster sessions, or where they can find more information about the clubs.

Exemplar: Our school offers a wide range of clubs, sports teams, and creative activities. Whether you're into music, drama, robotics, or football, there's something for everyone. During the first week of term, you'll receive a clubs booklet, and many groups offer taster sessions so you can try before you commit.

#3: Point 7 and closing paragraph

Strengths:

- Your message about being confident and bringing something unique is encouraging and affirming.
- The final paragraph has an inspirational tone that ends the advice sheet on a positive note.

Weakness: Vague and generic language → Phrases like "your voice matters" and "your future begins right here" sound motivational, but they don't give concrete guidance. New students would benefit more from practical advice in this final section—for example, reminding them of specific people they can talk to if they're struggling, or mentioning that it's normal to take a few weeks to settle in.

Exemplar: Most importantly, be confident in who you are. You bring something unique to our school, and we're excited to have you here. If you ever feel unsure or need support, our year coordinators and school counsellor are always available to chat—just ask at the office. Remember, it's normal to take a few weeks to settle in, so be patient with yourself.

■ Your advice sheet successfully creates a warm and welcoming tone, which is exactly what new students need when they're feeling anxious about starting at a new school. The structure is logical, moving from making friends to getting involved in activities, then to practical organisation tips. However, your writing would benefit from adding more specific, concrete details throughout. For instance, when you mention asking teachers or fellow students for help, you could name specific people (like form tutors or student representatives) so new students know exactly who to approach.

Additionally, some of your points feel a bit surface-level. Point 6 about the local community, for example, lists places to visit but doesn't explain why these are important or how students might use them. Are there study groups at the library? Do sports teams train at the local centres? These details would make your advice more actionable. Also, consider adding a point about what to do if things feel difficult—reassuring students that settling in takes time and that feeling a bit lost initially is completely normal. This would make your advice sheet feel more honest and supportive. Finally, check your spelling carefully (such as "over whelming" and ensure you're using Australian English throughout (for example, "soccer" should be "football"). Your enthusiasm shines through, but grounding it with practical, specific guidance will make your advice sheet truly helpful for new students.

Overall Score: 42/50

Section 2:

HOW YOU CAN DO AMAZINGLY [AMAZINGLY] IN SCHOOL

It can feel over whelming [overwhelming] going somewhere or doing anything new, but don't worry—[;] you will love it here!

Our school is friendly; it is a space where everyone is encouraged to be themselves, and to grow educationally and personally. Here are some tips to help you settle in:

- 1. The] best way you can make friends is to smile, introduce yourself, and show interest in others. Don't be afraid to join conversations or ask questions. Most students are curious about new arrivals and will be happy to get to know you.
- **2.** Our] school offers a wide range of clubs, sports teams, and creative activities. Whether you're into music, drama, robotics, or soccer [football], there's something for everyone. Joining a group is a great way to meet people who share your interests.
- **3.** If] you're unsure about anything—whether it's finding your classroom or understanding a subject—ask a teacher or fellow student. Everyone here is supportive and wants you to succeed.
- **4.** We] value kindness, respect, and inclusivity. Treat others the way you'd like to be treated, and you'll find that people respond positively. Our school celebrates diversity, so be proud of who you are and be open to learning about others.
- **5.** Keep] track of your timetable, homework, and important dates. Using a planner or digital calendar can help you stay on top of things and reduce stress.
- **6.** Our] community is full of great places to visit. Check out the local library, parks, and sports centres. There are also weekend markets and cafes [cafés] where students often hang out. It's a safe and welcoming area, so take time to explore and enjoy it.
- 7. Most importantly, be confident in who you are. You bring something unique to our school, and we're excited to have you here. Your voice matters, and your presence makes our community stronger.

Welcome aboard! You're here for a reason, and your journey starts now. Embrace challenges, celebrate victories, and never stop learning. This is your time to grow, connect, and shine—your future begins right here.