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Term 3 - 2025: Week 7 - Writing Homework | Year 5 Scholarship Specialisation

## Section 1:

**#1** (Opening paragraph: "Imagine opening your lunchbox...")

**Strengths:** Your opening uses vivid imagery that immediately connects with readers, and you clearly state your main argument about including multicultural recipes in school lunches.

Weakness: Vague supporting details → Your examples of "Mexican taco, Japanese rice ball, or Indian curry" are quite general and don't show deep understanding of these foods or cultures. The paragraph would be stronger with more specific details about what makes these dishes special or meaningful.

Exemplar: "Imagine opening your lunchbox and finding a Korean bibimbap with its colourful vegetables arranged in sections, or a Moroccan tagine with fragrant spices that tell the story of ancient trade routes."

#2 (Third paragraph: "Diverse meals are also good for our health...")

**Strengths:** You include specific examples like Japanese miso soup and Mediterranean salads, and you mention a study to support your health claims.

Weakness: Superficial evidence → Your health claims lack depth and the study you mention is too vague. Phrases like "a study showed" and "happier, healthier students" don't provide convincing evidence because readers don't know which study or what specific health improvements occurred.

Exemplar: "Research from nutrition scientists at Melbourne University found that students who ate diverse cultural foods had 20% higher iron levels and better concentration in afternoon classes."

**#3** (Final paragraph: "Some people might worry...")

**Strengths:** You address potential concerns about your idea, which shows balanced thinking.

Weakness: Underdeveloped counterargument → Your response to the cost and difficulty concerns is too brief and doesn't fully address the real challenges schools face. The solution "start small, using simple recipes" doesn't explain how this would actually work in practice.

Exemplar: "Schools could partner with local multicultural families who volunteer to share traditional recipes, or work with food suppliers who already provide ingredients for diverse cuisines to nearby restaurants."

■ Your piece demonstrates good organisation and a clear position on multicultural school lunches. However, your arguments need more substance and depth to be truly convincing. Your health claims would be stronger with specific nutritional information rather than general statements. Additionally, your cultural understanding could be deeper - instead of just naming dishes, explain what they represent to different communities. Your counterargument section needs expansion to show you've seriously considered the practical challenges schools face. Also, your evidence throughout the piece relies too heavily on vague references like "one teacher said" and "a study showed" without providing specific sources. To improve your writing, focus on developing each paragraph with more detailed examples and concrete evidence that readers can verify.

Overall Score: 42/50

### Section 2:

## **School Lunches**

Imagine opening your lunchbox and finding a tasty dish from another part of the world—maybe a Mexican taco, a Japanese rice ball, or an Indian curry. Wouldn't that make lunchtime exciting? I believe school lunches should include one recipe from a different culture every day. It would help students learn, grow, and enjoy food in new ways. #1

Eating food from different cultures helps us understand each other better. When we try meals from other countries, we learn about their traditions and stories. It's like travelling the world without leaving school! This builds respect and friendship between students from different backgrounds. As one teacher said, "Food is a way to share who we are." That's why [This is why] multicultural lunches can make school feel more welcoming and kind.

Diverse meals are also good for our health. Nutrition experts say that eating a mix of foods gives us more vitamins and energy. If we only eat the same things every day, we miss out on important nutrients. For example, Japanese miso soup has healthy protein, while Mediterranean salads are full of fresh vegetables. A study showed that schools with global menus had happier, healthier students. That's a win for everyone! #2

Trying new foods can be fun and exciting. Students might discover a new favourite dish or learn to cook it at home. It also makes lunchtime something to look forward to. One school found that when

they added international recipes, more students chose school lunch and talked about the meals with friends. Sharing food brings people together.

Some people might worry that it's too hard or expensive to make different meals every day. But schools can start small, using simple recipes from families or local chefs. Even one new dish a day can make a big difference. #3

#### **INTERVIEW:**

#### Section 1:

#1: "My name is Varoon, and I'm someone who has curiosity, creativity, and likes to be challenged. I enjoy playing chess because it sharpens my strategic thinking and teaches me patience, every move is a chance to learn."

**Strengths:** Your opening clearly states who you are and what drives you. You connect chess to specific skills like strategic thinking and patience.

Weakness: Missing linking words → Your sentences feel choppy because they don't flow smoothly together. The phrase "and likes to be challenged" doesn't match the pattern of "curiosity, creativity" and sounds awkward.

Exemplar: "My name is Varoon, and I'm someone who values curiosity, creativity, and enjoys taking on new challenges. I particularly enjoy playing chess because it not only sharpens my strategic thinking but also teaches me patience."

#2: "Tennis is another passion of mine, it's fast-paced, physical, and pushes me to stay focused under pressure. I also play the flute, which allows me to express myself through music and brings a sense of calm and rhythm to my day."

**Strengths:** You show variety in your interests and explain how each activity benefits you differently. Your description of the flute creating "calm and rhythm" is lovely.

**Weakness:** Comma splice error → You've joined two complete sentences with just a comma in "Tennis is another passion of mine, it's fast-paced, physical, and pushes me to stay focused under pressure." This creates a grammar mistake that makes your writing harder to read.

Exemplar: "Tennis is another passion of mine because it's fast-paced and physical, pushing me to stay focused under pressure."

#3: "What makes me unique is the balance I strike between logic and creativity. Whether I'm solving a chess puzzle, performing a musical piece, or analysing current events, I approach each activity with focus and enthusiasm."

**Strengths:** You clearly identify what makes you special and give specific examples. Your use of "whether" shows good sentence structure.

**Weakness:** Vague conclusion → While you mention "balance between logic and creativity," you don't clearly explain how this balance actually works in your activities or why it matters for your future goals.

Exemplar: "What makes me unique is how I combine logical thinking from chess with creative expression through music, helping me approach problems from different angles."

■ Your response shows good self-awareness and covers different aspects of your personality well. You've included hobbies, interests, and personal qualities, which gives a rounded picture of who you are. However, your writing needs better sentence structure and clearer connections between ideas. Also, you could strengthen your response by explaining more clearly how your interests connect to your goals or what you want to achieve. Additionally, some of your sentences are quite long and could be broken down to make them easier to follow. Furthermore, you should work on making smoother transitions between different topics so your response flows better from one idea to the next.

Score:	40/	′50
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Section 2:

# **About Myself:**

#1 My name is Varoon, and I'm someone who has [possesses] curiosity, creativity, and likes to be challenged [enjoys taking on new challenges]. I enjoy playing chess because it sharpens my strategic thinking and teaches me patience [;] every move is a chance to learn. #2 Tennis is another passion of mine, it's [Tennis is another passion of mine because it's] fast-paced, physical, and pushes me to stay focused under pressure. I also play the flute, which allows me to express myself through music and brings a sense of calm and rhythm to my day.

I enjoy watching the news because I like understanding how the world works. It helps me connect global events to everyday life and think critically about the choices people make. Staying informed makes me feel engaged and aware of the bigger picture.

#3 What makes me unique is the balance I strike between logic and creativity. Whether I'm solving a chess puzzle, performing a musical piece, or analysing current events, I approach each activity with focus and enthusiasm. I'm always looking for ways to grow, challenge myself, and explore new

perspectives. I believe that being curious, reflective, and open-minded helps me become not just a better student, but a more thoughtful person.