
Term 3 - 2025: Week 8 - Writing Homework | Year 5 Scholarship Specialisation

Section 1:

#1 - Opening paragraph: "Travel into a classroom where students are relaxed with a positive mindset..."

Strengths: Your opening creates a vivid picture that draws readers in. You use descriptive language that helps readers imagine the scene.

Weakness: Unclear sentence structure → Your first sentence is quite long and confusing to follow. The phrase "Travel into a classroom" doesn't make grammatical sense, and the sentence tries to say too many things at once. This makes it hard for readers to understand your main point right away.

Exemplar: "Picture a classroom where students sit relaxed, their minds growing more creative as they read for just thirty minutes each day."

#2 - Second paragraph: "Put yourself in a student's shoes, are they stressed, frustrated or even anxious?..."

Strengths: You connect with readers by asking them to imagine being a student. Your statistics about Australian students add weight to your argument.

Weakness: Confusing pronoun use → You switch between "yourself" and "they" in the same sentence, which creates confusion. When you say "Put yourself in a student's shoes, are they stressed," it's unclear who you're talking about. This makes your writing harder to follow.

Exemplar: "Put yourself in a student's shoes - are you feeling stressed, frustrated or even anxious?"

#3 - Final paragraph: "Have a second thought, do you really want schools to teach students in an unpleasant way..."

Strengths: You end with a strong call to action that challenges readers to think differently. Your conclusion ties back to your main argument effectively.

Weakness: Awkward phrasing → The phrase "Have a second thought" sounds unnatural in English. Also, the sentence "Teachers struggling to keep students engaged and focused is not what truly needs saving" is confusing and doesn't connect clearly to your main point about reading.

Exemplar: "Think again - do you really want schools to continue teaching in ways that don't engage students, or should we give them the chance to read for thirty minutes daily?"

■ Your piece shows passion for helping students through reading, which comes through strongly. You've included some good statistics and tried to connect with your readers personally. However, your writing would benefit from clearer sentence structure and smoother flow between ideas. Many of your sentences are too long and try to say several things at once, making them hard to follow. Additionally, your paragraphs could connect better to each other - right now they feel like separate ideas rather than one flowing argument. Try breaking long sentences into shorter ones and use connecting words like "furthermore" or "in addition" to link your paragraphs. Also, make sure your pronouns are clear - stick to either "you" or "students" rather than switching between them. Your conclusion needs to be clearer about what action you want readers to take.

Overall Score: 42/50

Section 2:

#1 Travel into [Step into] a classroom where students are relaxed with a positive mindset, growing their creativity and learning new vocabulary [.] just [All this comes] from a book in their hands in only thirty minutes. Wouldn't this be a life-changing [changing] event, giving the privilege for [students the opportunity to let their minds] students to wander their minds to [escape into] a whole different atmosphere? It has been proven and is blatantly clear that allowing students to read for thirty minutes daily [] needs to be a priority.

#2 Put yourself in a student's shoes, are they stressed, frustrated or even anxious? [Put yourself in a student's shoes - are you feeling stressed, frustrated or even anxious?] In fact, researchers have conducted global studies that [showing] more than three-quarters of students in Australia have been developing negative behaviours towards themself [themselves], due to the plethora of stress from school. This could be from schoolwork, friendship issues or solitude. This would make students feel pessimistic and have a fixed mindset [.] however [However,] books are the hero to find a solution. Reading daily can adjust all those broken up thoughts to positive encouragement [transform negative thoughts into positive ones] and release dopamine. These small changes in a student's life are essential to live [living] a healthy and peaceful life.

Books are the number one keys [key] to unlock creativity. Unlike the [other] ways to store information, reading books allow [allows] students to absorb facts while being engaged. They are able to feel as if they are inside the book, regardless if [of whether] it's on another planet, a [in a] kingdom or in a mythical and enchanted environment. 65% [Sixty-five per cent] of the [students'] creativity comes from books, no matter if [whether] it's a narrative, persuasive or an [text or] article [.] these [These] all [texts] are vital [essential] for their unique ideas. Creativity is needed daily [.] it [It] allows students to think differently and express their idiosyncratic [individual] behaviours. Schools must allow students to read for thirty minutes as it not only benefits their creativity but is practical for students' lives.

When you were a student, have you ever participated in the [a] spelling bee? No students are a ['natural'] 'natural' [] at spelling [] but they have to earn it. Reading for thirty minutes per day [] stretches out [] their brain and educates them to learn more advanced vocabulary. Books not only teach students how to spell words but use [how to use] them in the correct terms [context]. Reading plays a [hugely significant role for students and is a hobby that develops at a young age.] huge significance for students and is a hobby that develops at a young age.

#3 Have a second thought [Think again], do you really want schools to teach students in an unpleasant way or give the privilege for [students the opportunity to read a book daily for thirty minutes? It motivates students to have a positive mindset, grow their creativity and learn new vocabulary. Teachers struggling to keep the students engaged and focused is not what truly needs saving- it's the students reading for thirty minutes every day. [Rather than struggling to keep students engaged through traditional methods, we should prioritise giving them thirty minutes of daily reading time.]