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

Section 1

#1 "Reading helps us become better learners, gives us a break from stress, and can even be fun if we find the right books."

Strengths: Your opening clearly states three main reasons supporting your argument. You've organised your ideas in a logical way that readers can easily follow.

Weakness: Lack of specific evidence → You make broad statements without providing concrete examples or details. When you say reading "helps us become better learners," you don't explain exactly how this happens or give specific examples that would make your point stronger.

Exemplar: Reading helps us become better learners by expanding our vocabulary, improving our concentration skills, and teaching us about different topics that connect to our school subjects.

#2 "When we read often, we learn new words, understand things more easily, and get better at thinking. This doesn't just help in English—it also helps in subjects like science, history, and even maths, because reading improves our focus and understanding."

Strengths: You explain how reading benefits multiple school subjects, not just English. Your reasoning shows good understanding of how skills transfer between different areas of learning.

Weakness: Insufficient detail → Your explanations remain quite general without specific examples. Phrases like "understand things more easily" and "get better at thinking" need more detail to convince readers. You don't show exactly how reading helps with maths or science.

Exemplar: Reading science books helps us learn scientific vocabulary like 'photosynthesis' and 'gravity,' whilst reading historical fiction teaches us about different time periods and cultures, making our history lessons easier to understand.

#3 "Others might say, 'Not everyone likes to read.' That's true—but maybe that's because they haven't found the right book yet. There are so many types of books out there: action, mystery, fantasy, comics—even books about sport or animals."

Strengths: You acknowledge opposing viewpoints and provide a reasonable response. Your list of different book types shows you understand that readers have varied interests.

Weakness: Weak counterargument → Your response doesn't fully address the concern that some students genuinely struggle with reading or find it difficult. You assume the only problem is finding the right book, but some students might need extra support or have learning difficulties that make reading challenging.

Exemplar: Whilst some students might find reading difficult at first, schools can provide different types of support, such as audiobooks, reading buddies, or books with larger print to belp every student participate successfully.

■ Your piece presents a clear argument with good structure, but it needs more depth and specific examples to be truly convincing. The main ideas are sound, but you rely too heavily on general statements rather than concrete evidence. Additionally, your writing would benefit from exploring the topic more thoroughly - for instance, you could discuss what types of books work best for different ages or how teachers might organise reading time effectively. Also, consider addressing practical concerns more fully, such as how schools could find time in busy schedules or what to do if students forget their books. Furthermore, adding real examples from schools that already have reading time would strengthen your argument significantly. Your conclusion restates your main points well, but it could also suggest specific steps schools could take to implement your idea.

Overall Score: 42/50

Section 2

#1 I believe that all schools should have a 30-minute reading time every day. #2 Reading helps us become better learners, gives us a break from stress, and can even be fun if we find the right books. Making time for reading in school would help students in lots of ways.

First of all, reading helps us get better at all our subjects. #3 When we read often, we learn new words, understand things more easily, and get better at thinking. This doesn't just help in English—it also helps in subjects like science, history, and even maths, because reading improves our focus and understanding.

Secondly, reading gives our brains a break. School can be stressful with tests, homework, and busy lessons. A quiet time to read can help us relax. It's a good way to calm down and get ready to learn again. Instead of more screen time or noisy activities, reading gives us some peaceful time for ourselves.

Some people might say, "There isn't enough time in the school day for reading." But I think it's worth it. Just 30 minutes of reading could make a big difference in how well we do in school. If it helps us get better at learning, then it's time well spent.

Others might say, "Not everyone likes to read." That's true—but maybe that's because they haven't found the right book yet. There are so many types of books out there: action, mystery, fantasy, comics—even books about sport or animals. If we give students time to explore, they might discover books they really enjoy.

In conclusion, having a 30-minute reading time in school every day is a great idea. It helps us become better learners, gives us time to relax, and can even help us find books we love. Every school should make reading part of the daily routine!