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

## **Section 1:**

**#1** (Opening paragraph - "Imagine a wave of hush falling over your chronically bustling school...")

**Strengths:** Your opening creates a vivid picture that draws readers in, and you clearly state your main argument about implementing reading time.

Weakness: Unclear sentence structure → Your final sentence becomes confusing because it tries to say too many things at once. The phrase "but also makes them feel happy and helps students calm down" doesn't flow smoothly with the rest of the sentence, making it hard for readers to follow your ideas.

Exemplar: "Not only will children develop strong vocabulary and writing skills, but they will also feel happier and more relaxed, creating the perfect conditions for learning other subjects."

#2 (Second paragraph - "By reading, students can develop a daily habit...")

**Strengths:** You make a good connection between reading and writing skills, and you mention how this could benefit Australia's education system.

Weakness: Vague supporting details → Your paragraph lacks specific examples to support your claims. When you mention "studies have linked reading to boosted writing skills," you don't provide any concrete details about what these studies found or how exactly reading improves writing.

Exemplar: "Research shows that students who read regularly learn new sentence structures and expand their vocabulary by approximately 1000 words per year, which directly improves their writing quality."

#3 (Third paragraph - "Furthermore, if school students read for 30 minutes every day...")

**Strengths:** You attempt to explain the emotional benefits of reading and try to address potential counterarguments.

Weakness: Unsupported scientific claims → You mention that "reading generates hormones" and creates "natural happiness" without explaining how this actually works. Your argument would be stronger with clearer explanations of the connection between reading and mood.

## Exemplar: "Reading helps students relax and escape everyday stress, which puts them in a positive mood for the rest of their school day."

■ Your piece tackles an important topic and shows you understand the basic structure of persuasive writing. However, your arguments need stronger support to convince readers. Many of your claims, such as the connection between reading and Australia's economy, need clearer explanations and specific examples. Additionally, your writing would benefit from smoother sentence connections - some ideas feel jumbled together rather than flowing naturally from one to the next. Also, consider developing each main point more thoroughly before moving to the next argument. Your conclusion effectively restates your position, but it could be stronger by summarising your key points more specifically. Furthermore, work on making your sentences clearer by avoiding trying to pack too many ideas into one sentence. You could also strengthen your persuasive writing by anticipating what questions readers might have and addressing them directly in your paragraphs.

Overall Score: 43/50

## Section 2:

#1 Imagine a wave of hush falling over your chronically bustling school, all the children calmly diving deep into the daring adventure of an exciting novel. After thirty minutes, the school bursts back into its usual activity, but the students receive humongous benefits. I adamantly believe that schools should implement a 30-minute time slot dedicated to reading. Not only will children develop a strong vocabulary and writing skills, but also makes them feel happy and helps students calm down, setting the scene for other subjects. [Not only will children develop strong vocabulary and writing skills, but they will also feel happier and more relaxed, creating the perfect conditions for learning other subjects.]

#2 By reading, students can develop a daily habit, enhancing their writing skills, giving them an idea of different robust writing phrases, ideas and storylines. Studies have linked that reading to boosted writing skills and vocabulary, a good boost for the scores of students. [Studies have linked reading to improved writing skills and vocabulary, which significantly boosts student academic performance.] This will not only boost Australia's economy but also let schools spend less time on English or writing, giving more time for maths, which many Australian students struggle with. Therefore, we should include a mandatory 30-minute time slot because it can enhance a student's writing skills.

#3 Furthermore, if school students read for 30 minutes every day, it will become a high point of their day. Reading generates hormones, making you feel true, natural happiness, which can greatly bring up a student's day, benefiting the student's productivity compared to if he were unhappy. [Reading releases endorphins that create genuine happiness, which significantly improves a student's mood and productivity throughout the day.] You may argue that other things also bring happiness, but reading has lots of benefits, and also brings high quality happiness – just five minutes can make you happy, and it is also long term. Thus, we should include a mandatory 30-minute time slot because it can uplift a student's day.

In addition, adventuring into the pages of a book can settle students down and set the scene for efficient learning. Experts reckon that reading can settle students down, helping them focus on the latter subjects. This not only brings up their literacy skills but also enhances their learning attitude and efficiency of the later subjects. Picture a class, crazed out after lunch, coming back to read. After 30 minutes, they are calmed down and able to learn effectively. So, we should include a mandatory 30-minute time slot because it sets the scene for productivity.

Ultimately, schools should implement a 30-minute time slot dedicated to reading, as it will help children develop a strong vocabulary and writing skills, but also makes them feel happy and helps students calm down, setting the scene for other subjects. Why not go and dive into the mythical world of a story with your class?