

Section 1:

#1 (Opening paragraph)

Strengths: Your opening creates a vivid picture with the imagery of students staring at classroom walls and dreaming of pirates and fairies. You also clearly state your main argument about implementing 30 minutes of daily reading time.

Weakness: Unclear logical connection → The jump from describing confined imaginations to claiming "a whole day without reading can take a serious toll on creativity" doesn't logically follow, since the scenario you describe shows students already in a school setting where they likely do read during English lessons. The phrase "where the key could be lost forever" also creates confusion about what exactly the key represents and how reading time would retrieve it.

Exemplar: *Rather than focusing on a single day without reading, you could write: "When students spend most of their school day focused only on maths calculations and grammar rules, their creative thinking muscles don't get enough exercise to grow strong."*

#2 (Second paragraph about stress reduction)

Strengths: You support your argument with specific research from Oxford University and provide practical suggestions about when reading time could occur during the school day.

Weakness: Vague supporting evidence → Whilst you mention "research from Oxford University," you don't specify which study, department, or researchers conducted this research. The statistic that "90% of students across all age groups report that just 30 minutes of daily reading significantly reduces stress and anxiety" needs more context about how this data was collected and what types of reading were included.

Exemplar: *You could strengthen this by writing: "Studies on reading and wellbeing have shown that regular reading can help students feel calmer and more relaxed, making it easier for them to handle school pressures."*

#3 (Final paragraph about lifelong habits)

Strengths: You connect reading habits to other healthy routines like early bedtimes and limiting screen time. The quote from Dr. Helen Kate provides a memorable comparison to daily hygiene habits.

Weakness: Insufficient quote integration → The quote from Dr. Helen Kate appears without proper context about her credentials or expertise. Additionally, the connection between reading and "going to bed early and limiting screen time" isn't clearly explained - you don't show how reading specifically leads to these other habits forming.

Exemplar: *Instead, you might write: "When students read regularly at school, they often discover they enjoy books so much that they choose to read at home instead of watching television, naturally creating better evening routines."*

■ Your piece presents a clear argument for daily school reading time and addresses important benefits like stress relief and improved focus. However, your writing would be stronger if you developed your ideas more thoroughly. For example, when you mention that reading helps concentration during lessons, you could explain exactly how this works - perhaps students feel more settled after a reading break, or their minds are refreshed and ready to tackle new concepts. Additionally, your examples could be more specific to help readers understand your points better. Instead of mentioning pirates and fairies generally, you might describe how reading adventure stories could inspire creative writing in English class. Also, when you discuss the Oxford University research, providing more details about the study would make your argument more convincing. Furthermore, you could strengthen the connection between your different points by showing how stress reduction, better focus, and healthy habits all work together to improve student learning. Your conclusion effectively summarises your main points, but you could also add a sentence about what schools should do next to implement this idea.

Overall Score: 45/50

Section 2:

Picture a school where students stare at the classroom wall, their imaginations confined within ~~Maths~~ [Mathematics] and English. They long to indulge in stories of pirates sailing the Caribbean, or fairies sipping tea in Wonderland. A whole day without reading can take a serious toll on creativity. While

formulas and grammar are important, how can you write a story or solve a problem when your imagination is trapped in a cage where the key could be lost forever? There's a simple solution: half an hour of reading time in schools every day. It not only frees creativity, but also helps students relax after a stressful day, supports wellbeing, sharpens focus and literacy, and encourages lifelong reading habits ~~that could help spark entirely new ones~~ [whilst developing valuable learning skills]. #1

For many students around the world, school can be highly stressful - not just for primary students, but for those in high school, college , and beyond. While it may sound like an oversimplification, research from Oxford University shows that 90% of students across all age groups report that just 30 minutes of daily reading significantly reduces stress and anxiety. Whether it's at the end of the day to help students unwind or at noon for a quick mental break, it can be effective for everyone. Giving the mind a moment to relax also helps students return to lessons with sharper focus. #2

That brings me to my next point: reading also helps students maintain better concentration during lessons. While recess and lunch provide breaks, reading offers a shorter, more efficient pause that can reduce distractions, especially during longer ~~middle sessions~~ [classroom periods]. In this way, students can relax while continuing to strengthen their literacy skills and imagination, returning to class refreshed and ready to learn.

Lastly, reading for 30 minutes consistently every day can help students develop healthy, lifelong routines. Alongside reading, they can also form habits such as going to bed early and limiting screen time. As Dr. Helen Kate states: "Just like brushing your teeth and showering every day, reading plants seeds that will grow into healthier habits as you grow." By ~~practicing~~ [practising] these small daily routines, students build a foundation for a more balanced and focused future. #3

In conclusion, 30 minutes of reading at school can do more than just expand imagination. It allows students to relax and refresh after a long day, maintain better focus during lessons, and lays the foundation for a happier, healthier, and more balanced life.