

Section 1:

#1 (Opening paragraph): "Every day, students cross the busy road outside our school, and every day, we roll the dice on their safety. It's time to stop gambling with safety. And the solution is simple- add a pedestrian crossing with flashing lights."

Strengths: Your opening uses strong, attention-grabbing language with "roll the dice" and "gambling" that immediately shows the danger students face. You clearly state your main argument right from the start.

Weakness: Incomplete sentence structure → Your second sentence "And the solution is simple- add a pedestrian crossing with flashing lights" begins with "And," which creates a sentence fragment when it could be connected to make your argument stronger.

Exemplar: *"It's time to stop gambling with safety by adding a simple solution: pedestrian crossings with flashing lights."*

#2 (Second paragraph): "If you haven't noticed, schools are full of cars during the morning and afternoon (the usual pickup times and drop off times.) All the cars and school buses rush to pick up their students or children, creating a hectic even dangerous atmosphere."

Strengths: Your writing explains the problem clearly by describing what happens during busy school times. You help readers picture the chaotic scene with cars and buses rushing around.

Weakness: Missing punctuation and word choice → The phrase "hectic even dangerous atmosphere" needs a comma between "hectic" and "even." Also, "If you haven't noticed" sounds a bit rude to your readers when you want to convince them.

Exemplar: *"During morning and afternoon pickup times, schools become crowded with cars and buses rushing to collect students, creating a hectic, and even dangerous, atmosphere."*

#3 (Fourth paragraph): "Stops parents from worrying about their children. Flashing pedestrian lights offer parents a profound sense of relief..."

Strengths: Your paragraph connects well to parents' feelings and explains how the lights would help families feel safer. You use good descriptive words like "profound sense of relief."

Weakness: Incomplete opening sentence → Your paragraph starts with "Stops parents from worrying about their children," which isn't a complete sentence because it's missing the subject (what stops parents from worrying).

Exemplar: *"These flashing lights also stop parents from worrying about their children's safety."*

■ Your piece presents a clear argument for installing pedestrian crossings with flashing lights, and you've done well connecting your ideas to real concerns that parents and schools face. Your writing shows good understanding of how to persuade readers by explaining both practical benefits and emotional relief. However, your writing would be stronger if you fixed some sentence structure problems that make parts harder to follow. Additionally, you could improve your argument by adding more specific details about how these crossings work in real schools or what other communities have experienced. Also, some of your paragraphs could flow better with stronger connecting sentences between your main points. Consider starting each paragraph with a clearer topic sentence that tells readers exactly what benefit you'll discuss next.

Score: 43/50

Section 2:

#1 Every day, students cross the busy road outside our school, and every day, we roll the dice on their safety. ~~It's time to stop gambling with safety. And the solution is simple- add a pedestrian crossing with flashing lights.~~ [It's time to stop gambling with safety by adding a simple solution: pedestrian crossings with flashing lights.]

#2 ~~If you haven't noticed, schools are full of cars during the morning and afternoon (the usual pickup times and drop-off times.)~~ [During morning and afternoon pickup times, schools become crowded with cars and buses.] All the cars and school buses rush to pick up their students or children, creating a ~~hectic even dangerous~~ [hectic, and even dangerous,] atmosphere. That's where the ~~pedestrian~~ [pedestrian crossings] with flashing lights come in. These signals do more than just blink—they actively catch the attention of drivers, prompting them to slow down and stay alert in high-traffic areas. A clearly marked, illuminated crossing provides structure and predictability, reducing confusion and encouraging safer driver behaviour. Even more importantly, reducing vehicle speed in these zones has a

direct impact on injury severity. A person struck at 30 km/h is far more likely to survive than one hit at 50 km/h, making speed control—and the tools that encourage it—crucial to protecting lives.

Next, flashing lights also encourage safe crossing habits, especially for children who are still learning how to navigate streets safely. These bright, attention-grabbing signals provide a clear indication of when it is appropriate to cross, helping children understand the importance of waiting for visual cues before stepping onto the road. Since young children may struggle to judge traffic speed or distance, the lights act as a simple and reliable tool that guides their decision-making. Repeated exposure to flashing pedestrian lights teaches kids to stop, look both ways, and wait for the signal, reinforcing a consistent and structured routine. This routine not only keeps them safer in the moment but also builds long-term habits that promote cautious and responsible pedestrian behaviour as they grow older.

~~#3 Stops parents from worrying about their children.~~ [These flashing lights also stop parents from worrying about their children's safety.] Flashing pedestrian lights offer parents a profound sense of relief, knowing that their children are safer while crossing busy streets. For parents, whose hearts often race with every step their child takes outside the home, these lights ~~symbolize~~ [symbolise] more than just traffic control—they represent protection and peace of mind. When a child steps off the curb and the lights flash, parents feel an invisible reassurance, a quiet promise that their little ones are less vulnerable to harm. This comfort strengthens the unspoken bond between parent and child, built on trust and care. Moreover, the presence of these lights reduces the constant anxiety that leads many parents to flood schools with calls, desperate to confirm their child's safety. Without the need for hundreds of daily check-ins, schools can focus on educating rather than managing parental fears, creating a healthier environment for everyone involved.

In summary, installing pedestrian crossings with flashing lights is a simple but powerful step toward protecting our children. These lights don't just slow down traffic—they teach safe habits, ease parents' worries, and allow schools to focus on education rather than constant safety concerns. Every child deserves to cross the road safely, and every parent deserves peace of mind. It's time we put safety first and stop gambling with our children's futures.