Term 3 - 2025: Week 9 - Writing Homework | Year 5 Scholarship Specialisation

Section 1:

#1 (Opening paragraph with rhetorical questions)

Strengths: Your opening uses engaging rhetorical questions that connect with readers who are parents. You've chosen a relatable topic that many families face daily.

Weakness: Unclear thesis statement → Your opening paragraph doesn't clearly state your main argument until the very end. The phrase "Would it help with a road crossing near a school?" is confusing because readers aren't sure what "it" refers to. Your argument would be stronger if you clearly stated your position early on.

Exemplar: "Schools should have supervised pedestrian crossings because they reduce parent worry, improve child safety, and encourage healthy exercise habits."

#2 (Second paragraph about parents' time)

Strengths: You provide a concrete example with the "ten minute walk" scenario that helps readers visualise the situation. You connect the issue to parents' daily routines effectively.

Weakness: Repetitive sentence structure → Most of your sentences follow the same pattern, making your writing feel monotonous. Notice how you start multiple sentences with "This means that" and use similar structures throughout. The phrase "Even if you don't have a job you could make use of the time" also sounds awkward.

Exemplar: "Instead of spending twenty minutes walking back and forth, parents could use this time for household tasks, work commitments, or personal relaxation."

#3 (Final paragraph about exercise benefits)

Strengths: You make a good connection between road safety and the broader benefit of increased physical activity. The link to classroom behaviour shows you're thinking about multiple positive outcomes.

Weakness: Vague supporting evidence → Your claim that "Lots of teachers don't like it when children are restless or fidgety" needs stronger support. The connection between walking to school and better concentration isn't clearly explained, making your argument feel incomplete.

Exemplar: "Regular morning walks help children start their day with physical activity, which research shows can improve focus and attention in the classroom."

Your piece tackles an important community issue that affects many families. You've structured your argument with clear main points about parent convenience, child safety, and health benefits. However, your writing would benefit from stronger topic sentences that clearly introduce each paragraph's main idea. Additionally, you could strengthen your argument by explaining how pedestrian crossings actually work and what makes them effective.

Also, your conclusion feels rushed and doesn't summarise your key points effectively. Consider adding more specific details about what type of crossing you're suggesting and how it would be staffed. Furthermore, some of your sentences are quite long and could be broken down for better readability. Your examples are helpful, but they need clearer connections to your main arguments to convince readers more effectively.

Score: 42/50

Section 2:

#1 Have you ever worried about the fact that roads near schools are unsafe for a child to cross alone? Has it come to your mind that there should be a person who helps children cross roads safely? Parents always worry about their children when it comes to their first time crossing roads or even after some practice. Would it help with a road crossing near a school? [Schools need supervised pedestrian crossings to address these safety concerns.]

#2 To start with, parents always worry about their child crossing the roadwhich means that [, so] they always walk or drive them to and from school and never do their own things in that time. This means that they have to have longer hours of work whether it is around the house or just to do with your company [work-related tasks]. Even if you don't have a jobyou could make use of the time [, this time could be used] by doing house work [for housework], taking a walk or even relaxing. Often parents don't have time to do all of the things that they would like to do. Imagine that your child's school is about a ten minute walk from school [home], worrying about crossing the road you don't let them walk home alone, though you could have done something more important in this time you go [but

worrying about road safety means you can't let them walk alone, even though you could use this time for more important tasks]. This is a twenty minutes [minute] waste of your time which you could have been working [spent working] or taking a break in []. If there is road crossing [are pedestrian crossings] on all of the busy roads then you wouldn't need to worry anymore. As well as road crossing [pedestrian crossings] there would also be other people walking home from school so your child could also cross with them when they do. This is why there should be road crossings [pedestrian crossings] near the school [schools].

Following up from that, there should be road crossings [pedestrian crossings] near the school [schools] because it [they] can make things safer for your child. Studies show that school crossings can be extremely effective in avoiding collusions [collisions] and injuries to many children and Adults [adults]. They could have worries about crossing the road around school. Though you may not want them to walk to school themselves [,] H[h]aving a road crossing [pedestrian crossings] may help them persevere [overcome] their fear. Picture that your child has trouble crossing the road. You try to help them with this fear but nothing you try seems to work. Every time they don't want to cross the road alone. If they have a flashing pedestrian crossing there will be people there all the time so they wouldn't need to worry anymore. This is definitely a good reason for why there should be road crossings [pedestrian crossings] near the school [schools].

#3 Finally, if people have crossings there then kids and parents may not be as worried and they will get more exercise. Lots of teachers don't like it when children are restless or fidgety so if you walk to school with the insurance [assurance] that you are safe then the children would be less fidgety in class which helps with better concentration span []. Parents also can get a morning walk if they go to school with them which means that they don't have to worry about doing it after, so they can get more work done. Picture this [:] there is a pedestrian crossing at your child's school but before you didn't have one and you weren't confident in walking to school with your child. Now you can exercise and you are less stressed while working. This is why there must be a road crossing [pedestrian crossings] near schools.

In conclusion, there should definitely be road crossings [pedestrian crossings] near schools for a safer environment. If people aren't worried they can get more exercise which is also better for their health. So what do you think? Should schools have a road crossing [pedestrian crossings] for a safer environment?