

Section 1:

#1: Opening paragraph ("Good morning everyone... tearing us apart?")

Strengths:

- Your opening grabs attention by connecting to something everyone experiences – using phones and technology
- You pose a clear question that makes readers think about whether technology helps or hurts family relationships

Unclear thesis statement → Your main argument isn't crystal clear. You ask "is technology bringing us closer or tearing us apart?" but don't directly state your answer. Readers need to know your position straight away. A thesis statement should tell us exactly what you believe, like a promise of what you'll prove in your speech.

Exemplar: *Technology may connect us to the world, but it is pulling families apart by replacing real conversations with screen time.*

#2: Second paragraph ("We all know that social media... your parents or siblings")

Strengths:

- You explain a real problem – that people spend time with strangers online instead of family
- Your point about eyes being "glued to your device" creates a clear picture

Unclear connection between ideas → Your paragraph jumps from talking about strangers online to family bonds without explaining how these ideas link together. You mention building friendships with anonymous people, then suddenly say "this all might sum up to seem like a good relationship but it is the exact opposite." What makes it opposite? You need to explain why online friendships hurt family time, not just state that they do.

Exemplar: *While these online friendships might feel real, they take away precious time that could be spent talking and laughing with the people sitting right next to us at home.*

#3: Third paragraph ("Studies show that people... feel completely alone")

Strengths:

- Your use of evidence about loneliness and depression strengthens your argument
- The contrast between having "thousands of followers" and feeling "completely alone" is powerful

Vague evidence → You mention "studies show" but don't tell us which studies or who did the research. When you use evidence, your readers need more details to trust what you're saying. Which researchers found this? What exactly did they discover? Without these details, your evidence feels weak and readers might wonder if it's true.

Exemplar: *According to research from the Australian Psychological Society in 2023, teenagers who spend more than three hours daily on social media report feeling lonelier than those who spend time face-to-face with friends and family.*

■ Your piece tackles an important topic that affects many families today. The structure of your speech follows a logical path – you introduce the problem, explain why it matters, and offer solutions. However, your arguments need more depth and detailed examples. When you say technology decreases bonds with family, show us exactly how this happens. Does it mean missing dinner conversations? Ignoring a sibling's story about their day? Paint specific pictures so readers can see the problem in their own lives.

Additionally, your evidence needs strengthening. Rather than saying "studies show," tell us which study, who conducted it, and what the specific findings were. This makes your argument much more convincing. Also, think about adding a counterargument – what might someone who disagrees with you say? Then, explain why your view is still correct. This shows you've thought deeply about different perspectives.

Your solution paragraph is quite brief. Expand this section by explaining *how* people can "reclaim their time." What are practical steps families can take? Perhaps suggest phone-free dinner times, weekend activities without devices, or family game nights. Concrete suggestions give your audience clear actions they can follow. Your conclusion would also benefit from circling back to your opening question with a definitive answer, reminding readers why this matters for their families specifically.

Overall Score: 39/50

Section 2:

#1 Good morning everyone,

We live in the most connected time in history. We can just tap on a screen and send a message, photo **[or]** ~~or~~ join a meeting from our living room ~~all around the world~~ to someone ~~that~~ **[who]** lives far away **[anywhere in the world.]** Technology ~~developed~~ **[has developed]** communication **[;]** but the true question is: are we fully connected with our family or are we just addicted to technology **[?]** And in other words **[In other words,]** is technology bringing us closer or tearing us apart?

#2 We all know that social media allows you to engage with others but not in the right way. Social media makes us engage in ~~conversation between~~ **[conversations with]** strangers ~~that~~ **[whom]** we don't know who they really are, but we build a relationship with ~~the~~ **[these]** anonymous ~~person~~ **[people]** and soon become friends with them. This all might ~~sum up to~~ seem like a good relationship but it is the exact opposite. When your eyes are glued to your device you are ~~away~~ **[distanced]** from your family which can decrease your bond with your parents or siblings.

#3 Studies show that people—especially teenagers and young adults—are experiencing record levels of loneliness and depression, despite being "connected" 24/7. Why? Because an online ~~connection~~ **[interaction]** is not a real connection. You can have thousands of followers and still feel completely alone.

So what can we do? We need to reclaim our time, our focus and our relationships. That means putting the phone down, turning off the notifications and choosing real connection over virtual contact.

Thank you, Samaksh