Term 3 Holiday - 2025: Day 8 | 10-Day Intensive Selective Writing

Section 1

#1: Opening paragraph and Jack's testimony

"Technology's impact on education is significant, thanks to the wide range of technology we have access to. Jack, a boy aged 11, claims, 'We use our iPads every day at school to do writing, maths, and even art. The teacher marks all of our work on Google classroom'."

Strengths:

- You've included a real student voice (Jack) which makes your writing feel personal and relatable
- Your opening sentence clearly states your main topic

Vague opening statement → Your first sentence tells us technology is "significant" but doesn't explain how or why. What specific changes has technology brought to classrooms? For example, instead of saying "significant," you could write: "Technology has transformed education by making learning more interactive, allowing students to access information instantly, and helping teachers track student progress more efficiently." This gives your reader a clearer picture from the start.

#2: ATAR statistics paragraph

"In 2022 around 17.1% of students scored an ATAR of 90.00 or above, and in 2023 it was approximately 17.5%. Also in 2024, 17.8% of students who completed the ATAR exam received an ATAR of 90.00 or higher..."

Strengths:

- You've attempted to use specific data to support your point
- The statistics show a pattern over three years

Disconnected evidence → Your ATAR statistics appear suddenly without explaining what ATAR is or connecting it clearly to technology use in schools. How do these numbers prove that Google Classroom improves learning? You've jumped from one idea to another without building a bridge between them.

Try writing something like: "Schools that integrated technology platforms saw improved student outcomes. For instance, between 2022 and 2024, the percentage of students achieving high ATAR scores gradually increased from 17.1% to 17.8%, suggesting that digital learning tools like Google Classroom may contribute to better academic performance." This helps your reader understand why these numbers matter.

#3: Northern Territory school paragraph

"In a coastal school of the Northern Territory, they have to do their work on blackboards. This is a serious setback if they want to get better at anything; with the rest of Australia's schools rushing ahead to implement tech, this school is being left behind."

Strengths:

- You've created a contrast that highlights the inequality in education
- Your description of students walking 10 kilometres shows their dedication

Underdeveloped comparison → Whilst you mention the Northern Territory school lacks technology, you haven't fully explored what this means for those students' learning. What specific subjects or skills are harder without technology? What opportunities are they missing? Your paragraph would be stronger with concrete examples:

"Without access to digital resources, students at this Northern Territory school cannot watch educational videos to understand difficult concepts, cannot submit work for immediate feedback, and cannot practise typing skills that most employers now require. Whilst their peers in other states learn to research information online, these students are limited to whatever books their small library contains." This paints a clearer picture of the actual impact.

Your writing tackles an important topic and you've gathered different types of evidence—a student quote, statistics, and a contrasting example. However, your ideas need more explanation to help your reader fully understand your points. Think of your essay like building a house: you've put up the frame, but now you need to fill in the walls and add the details that make it complete.

Your main challenge is connecting your evidence to your argument. When you mention the ATAR statistics, ask yourself: "How does this prove my point?" Then write that answer. When you describe Jack using his iPad, explain what makes this better than older methods. Each piece of evidence needs you to act as a guide, showing your reader exactly what they should notice and why it matters.

Additionally, your paragraphs would benefit from smoother connections between ideas. Notice how you jump from ATAR scores straight to the Northern Territory example? Try adding sentences that link these thoughts together, such as "However, not all Australian students have equal access to these technological advantages."

You could also strengthen your writing by exploring the "why" behind your claims. You say technology allows for "better learning capability," but what does that actually mean? Does it mean students understand concepts faster? Remember information longer? Feel more engaged? Be specific. Also, your personal story about your mum is relevant, but it feels separate from the rest of your essay. Try weaving it into your other paragraphs or explaining how it connects to your larger point about educational change.

Finally, your conclusion repeats your introduction without adding new insight. Challenge yourself to end with a thought that makes your reader think differently or understand something new about technology in education.

Overall Score: 41/50

Section 2

#1 Technology's impact on education is significant, thanks to the wide range of technology we have access to. Jack, a boy aged 11, claims, "We ["We] use our iPads every day at school to do writing, maths[,] and even art. The teacher marks all of our work on Google elassroom" [Classroom."] This is the case in many schools around the world as technology is becoming more and more accessible. #2 In 2022[,] around 17.1% of students scored an ATAR of 90.00 or above, and in 2023[,] it was approximately 17.5%. Also in [In] 2024, 17.8% of students who completed the ATAR exam received an ATAR of 90.00 or higher, based on UACs [UAC's] (Universities Admissions Centre) data. This proves that with platforms like Google Classroom or Google Classroom Suite on the rise they allow for better learning capability. [This suggests that platforms like Google Classroom and Google Workspace for Education, which have become increasingly widespread, may contribute to enhanced learning outcomes.] According to Dr Reneng, "67% of school districts nationwide revealed that they use Google Classroom and/or G Suite for Education frequently [,] And that [and]

42% of school districts use Chromebooks or iPads on multiple occasions for instruction or tasks." Dr Reneng also says that the rate at which people are learning is accelerating at a frightening pace thanks to these apps.

#3 In [At] a coastal school of [in] the Northern Territory, they have to [students must] do their work on blackboards. This is a serious setback if they want to get better at anything [improve their skills]; [.] with [With] the rest of Australia's schools rushing ahead to implement teeh [technology], this school is being left behind. These children hold so much potential, yet the lack of resources makes it extremely difficult to learn. These kids [students] will do anything to learn. They are so determined to learn that many will walk over 10 kilometres to get to school. And if [If] technology is [were] implemented into their school, these kids [students] would finally have the chance to learn their hearts out.

When my mum was a kid [child], she would study hard in class. She would listen to every little detail and try her best in everything. However, when she would come home after school to do extra work[,] she could never remember what strategies you [she] needed to use. But nowadays, that isn't a problem any more [anymore]. All the strategies which the teacher has gone through are on an online platform[,] like Google Classroom. Thanks to thisthe [,] people [students] in class do not need to remember [memorise] every little detail[;] if they forgetthey [,] can just go [they can simply access] on [Google Classroom and review the information.]

The impact [The impact that] technology has on modern education is great, as it allows for better learning and focus. Jack and the other children of [at] his school are revolutionising the uses of technology in modern education. We should keep working on new ways to implement technologywhile [whilst] bringing the schools which are a bit behind up to speed.