Writing Feedback

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Term 3 Holiday - 2025: Day 7 | 10-Day Intensive Selective Writing
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Section 1

#1: Opening paragraph — "Will woke to the soft hum of his coffee machine... the rhythm of ordinary life"

Strengths:

- Your opening draws readers in with clear, easy-to-picture details about Will's morning
- You create a strong connection between the story example and the main idea about how technology affects daily life

Vague thesis statement → Your main argument tries to cover too many ideas at once ("making it easier than ever, but also quietly eroding the sense of independence and privacy"). This makes it unclear which point matters most in your piece. When you write "making it easier than ever, but also quietly eroding the sense of independence and privacy," you're introducing three separate ideas without showing how they connect. A stronger approach would focus on one clear claim that your whole piece will explore.

Exemplar: "As smart devices become more common in homes and daily routines, they create convenience that comes with a hidden cost: people are losing control over their own choices and information."

#2: Body paragraph on workplace technology — "In the workplace, technology has transformed... both empowering and exhausting"

Strengths:

- You include a relevant quote from Dylan Mitchell that shows real-world experience
- Your point about blurred boundaries between work and personal life is important and well-explained

Underdeveloped supporting evidence → Whilst you mention cybersecurity and continual learning, you don't explain why these matter or how they affect people's everyday experiences. The sentence "The constant connectivity demands updated cybersecurity measures and continual learning as new

systems emerge" feels rushed and disconnected from your main point about work-life balance. Your readers need to understand how these challenges actually change the way people work.

Exemplar: *"Employees must now learn new software systems every few months, and worry about protecting sensitive company information even when working from home, adding stress to jobs that were already demanding."*

#3: Body paragraph on social relationships — "Socially, technology has redefined... what it really means to connect"

Strengths:

- You provide a thoughtful quote from Decke Joun that captures the feelings many people experience
- Your observation about feeling isolated despite being "connected" is insightful

Weak paragraph structure → Your ideas jump around without smooth connections between sentences. After mentioning social media platforms, you suddenly shift to talking about face-to-face communication being replaced, then move to online image pressure, then back to the quote about connection. The sentence "Face-to-face communication is often replaced by quick reactions or emojis, and the pressure to maintain a perfect online image can distort genuine self-expression" introduces a new idea without linking it to what came before. Your paragraph would be stronger if you organised these points in a logical order that builds your argument step by step.

Exemplar: *"Social media platforms allow people to stay connected across distances, yet this digital interaction often replaces deeper forms of communication. Instead of having real conversations, people send quick reactions or emojis. Additionally, the pressure to maintain a perfect online image stops them from sharing their true thoughts and feelings."*

■ Your piece tackles an interesting topic that affects everyone's daily life, and you show good understanding of how technology creates both benefits and problems. Your opening story about Will works well to get readers interested. However, your writing would improve significantly if you developed your ideas more fully in each paragraph. Right now, you introduce important points but don't explain them enough for readers to fully understand why they matter.

Additionally, your paragraphs need better organisation. When you move from one idea to another, use connecting words to show how the ideas relate. This helps readers follow your thinking. Also, consider expanding your examples with more specific details. Instead of just saying technology makes things "easier" or "harder," show exactly how by describing what happens in people's actual lives.

Your conclusion introduces the important idea of "finding balance," but this appears suddenly at the end. Think about weaving this idea throughout your piece so it feels like the natural result of everything you've discussed. Your writing demonstrates solid understanding of the topic, but strengthening the depth of your explanations and improving how ideas flow from one to the next will make your piece much more convincing and easier to read.

Overall Score: 43/50

Section 2

#1 How Modern Technology is Reshaping Everyday Experiences

Will woke to the soft hum of his coffee machine, already brewing his favourite blend before he'd even left bed. His smartwatch had tracked his sleep, his phone adjusted his schedule after detecting morning traffic, and his shower came on at the perfect temperature. Without a single command, Will's day had begun in seamless coordination with the technology around him. ~~What once felt futuristic is now routine as technology reshapes the rhythm of ordinary life, making it easier than ever, but also quietly eroding the sense of independence and privacy that once defined it.~~ [What once felt futuristic is now routine as technology reshapes the rhythm of ordinary life, offering unprecedented convenience whilst simultaneously diminishing the autonomy and privacy that people once took for granted.] As smart devices become more common in homes and daily routines, they offer new levels of convenience while quietly changing how people live, make decisions, and interact with the world around them.

#2 In the workplace, technology has transformed the way people connect and get things done. Virtual meetings, instant messaging, and cloud-based tools allow employees to work from anywhere, dissolving the boundaries of the traditional office. "Technology has made it possible to collaborate across continents," says Dylan Mitchell, a project manager for a global tech firm. "But it's also made it harder to switch off. Work follows you everywhere now." However, this convenience comes at a cost. ~~The~~

~~constant connectivity demands updated cybersecurity measures and continual learning as new systems emerge.~~ [The constant connectivity demands vigilance: employees must regularly update their cybersecurity knowledge to protect sensitive information and continuously adapt to new systems, adding layers of complexity and stress to their workday.] The line between professional and private life has blurred, creating a constant state of connection that can be both empowering and exhausting.

#3 Socially, technology has redefined how people form and maintain relationships. Social media platforms, messaging apps, and virtual communities allow friends and families to stay connected despite distance and time zones. ~~While digital interaction bridges gaps, it also creates new ones. Face-to-face communication is often replaced by quick reactions or emojis, and the pressure to maintain a perfect online image can distort genuine self-expression.~~ [Whilst digital interaction bridges geographical gaps, it simultaneously creates emotional distance. Face-to-face communication is often replaced by quick reactions or emojis, superficial exchanges that lack the depth of genuine conversation. Furthermore, the pressure to maintain a perfect online image can distort genuine self-expression, causing people to present curated versions of themselves rather than their authentic personalities.] "It feels like we're always connected but not really communicating," reflects university student Decke Joun. Many people find themselves scrolling endlessly, surrounded by hundreds of "friends", but feeling more isolated than ever. Technology, in this sense, gives the illusion of closeness while quietly changing what it really means to connect.

As modern technology continues to evolve, its influence on everyday experiences will only deepen. It brings unprecedented comfort, efficiency, and accessibility, but it also raises important questions about privacy, dependence, and authenticity. Therefore, the challenge now lies in finding balance by embracing innovation while keeping the human touch that defines daily life. Technology should serve as a tool to enhance living, not to replace the moments of thought, effort, and connection that make it meaningful.