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

Section 1

#1: Introduction paragraph ("Have you ever wondered if technology in modern education is helping students — or holding them back?" through "...technology is bad for education?")

Strengths:

- Your opening question immediately grabs the reader's attention and makes them think about the topic
- You clearly present both sides of the argument, showing that technology has positive and negative aspects in education

Unclear Position → Your introduction asks readers to pick a side, but you don't clearly state your own position on the issue. While it's good to show both perspectives, your essay would be stronger if you told readers early on what you believe. This helps them understand where your argument is heading. The question "Which side are you on?" leaves readers uncertain about what you're trying to convince them of.

Exemplar: "While technology offers valuable learning opportunities, schools must carefully balance its use to prevent distraction and misuse. When used wisely with proper supervision, technology becomes a powerful tool for education."

#2: Body paragraph on benefits ("There are lots of benefits that technology has on education" through "...overall devices are good if they follow the rules.")

Strengths:

- You include a personal story about helping your friend with maths, which makes your point more believable and interesting
- The quote from Salman Khan adds expert support to your argument about technology's benefits

Insufficient Evidence → Your paragraph relies heavily on one personal experience and one quote, but doesn't explore the benefits deeply enough. You mention "thousands of learning opportunities" but only give one example. Your paragraph would be much stronger if you explained how different types of

technology help students learn in different ways, or if you gave more specific examples of educational tools and what they do.

Exemplar: "Technology offers various benefits for education. Online platforms like Khan Academy provide instant feedback on maths problems, helping students identify mistakes immediately. Interactive simulations allow science students to conduct virtual experiments safely. Additionally, digital libraries give students access to thousands of books and research materials that might not be available in their school library."

#3: Paragraph on balancing technology ("There is good and bad between technology and education but try to balance it out" through "...just balance it out.")

Strengths:

- You suggest practical solutions like using Hāpara, which shows you're thinking about real ways to solve the problem
- Your personal story about the Blooket incident demonstrates how students might misuse technology

Confusing Example → Your story about your friend hacking Blooket and getting someone else in trouble is quite confusing and doesn't clearly support your main point about balance. The story is complicated because it involves three people (your friend, another student, and the teacher), and it actually shows the opposite of balance—it shows technology being used very badly. Instead of helping readers understand how to use technology wisely, the example might confuse them about what "balance" really means.

Exemplar: "Schools can achieve balance by mixing traditional and digital learning methods. For instance, students might research information online but write their notes by hand, or use educational apps for practice whilst still completing paper-based tests. This approach ensures students benefit from technology without becoming overly dependent on it."

■ Your piece tackles an important topic that many students and teachers think about every day. You've shown that you understand technology has both positive and negative effects on learning, which is the foundation of a good argument. However, your essay would benefit from developing your ideas more

deeply in each section. Instead of just mentioning that technology offers "thousands of learning opportunities," try explaining two or three specific examples and how each one helps students learn differently. Additionally, your paragraphs on problems and balance could be strengthened by connecting your ideas more clearly. For instance, when you discuss distraction, explain exactly why games and social media pull students' attention away from learning tasks. Your conclusion does a good job summarising your main points, but it could be more powerful if it clearly stated what you believe is the best way forward, rather than just repeating that balance is important. Also, some of your personal stories, whilst interesting, need clearer connections to your main arguments. Think about how each example proves the specific point you're making in that paragraph. Overall, your writing shows promise, and with more detailed explanations and clearer organisation, your argument will become much more convincing.

Overall Score: 41/50

Section 2:

#1 Have you ever wondered if [Have you considered whether] technology in modern education is helping students — or holding them back? When you go to school, you have a chance of using devices to do things, like [such as] tests, tasks and homework. But, [However,] students may use technology in school for bad things if teachers are not paying attention to what they are doing. They could be searching up [for] inappropriate things or even play [playing] games if they are using their own computer that already has a game downloaded on it. In a writing test or even a multiple-choice test [,] people can plagiarize [plagiarise]. This means that students can copy someone else's work and call it their work [own] or in an assignment where you can search things up [;] they can also copy and paste information they find on Google. Do you think this is good or bad? On the bright side, students can search up [for] information to use in their own words in a [their] homework or task [tasks]. It can also make learning more engaging as students get to go on devices [which] which make them want to learn more. Which side are you on? Technology is good for education or technology is bad for education? [Is technology beneficial or detrimental to education?]

The Benefits Of [of] Technology On [in] Education

There are lots [numerous] benefits that technology has on [for] education. #2 First, technology has [provides] thousands of learning opportunities [such as] like online books, tests and even puzzles. These websites help students learn quicker and faster [more efficiently]. One time, my friend was struggling with a math [maths] question [;] when I saw him struggling [I] H showed him an app on my computer [and] the explanation on it was clear and easy to understandand [. After] after that he flawlessly completed any type of question that is [was] related to it. According to Salman Khan, founder of Khan Academy, a quote of him saying that technology is good for education is [states,] "Now imagine if an AI tutor could 'sit' next to students as they navigate the internet in general. Imagine if it were a browser plug-in. It might also Socratically help a student engage with what they are reading or even provide context that the student needs to better understand the content." As long as students stay focused on devices [devices,] there are no big [significant] issues about devices [with them,] and overall devices are good [beneficial] if they follow the rules.

The Problems And [and] Risks That [that] Technology Have On [Poses to] Education

Although there are a lot [many] benefits that technology has on [for] education. [,] It [it] also has a lot of [numerous] downsidesand [,] and some of them [which] are not good at all and can get you in trouble. Students can get distracted from [by] games, social media and also entertainment sites. Copying work from websites, which is called plagiarism [plagiarism,] and it can get you into big [serious] trouble if you get caught. A [Research] research from Australian Education Research Organisation (AKA. AERO) [the Australian Education Research Organisation (AERO)] found that "Too [too] much screen time can reduce a student's attention span [,] making them less focused and motivated. [."] I personally experienced this in school too [as well]. One day, we were basically using our devices the [for almost the] whole daythen [. Then,] then at the end of the day we had to research something to write it down for History. At that point, I was so tired [that] I only wrote one dot point in 5 [five] minutes. Technology can also be harmful at the same time [in ways] which not only targets [target] you but everyone else. It can also make you very tired and can also get you in trouble. Technology can be good and bad at the same time. [Thus, technology presents both advantages and disadvantages simultaneously.]

#3 Balance The Use Of [Balancing the Use of] Technology In [in] Education

There is good and bad between technology and education [education,] but try to balance it out [achieving balance is essential]. Use technology wisely, not badly. Schools can use tools like Hāpara to track what students are doing so that the teachers can stop them [intervene when necessary]. Teachers can also mix traditional and modern technology together in a [their] class [classes]. Education expert Sir Ken Robinson once said, "Technology is a tool. It's not good or bad by itself —

it's how we use it that matters." which [, which] which is very true as we can use technology to search things up and not do bad things. [things, whilst] While [whilst] other people used to [use it to] do inappropriate things. [things.] Which matches what Sir Ken Robinson said about. [This aligns with Sir Ken Robinson's observation.] One example is that: [this:] One [one] time, my friend for some reason used hacks in Blooket and got another person in trouble. [trouble] By [by] setting his money counter to like I don't know [approximately] 10 quadrillionmaybe [quadrillion,]; and the teacher thought the other person was hacking and [. and That student] he was banned from technology for 1 [one] week | think [week.] So [This] this explains that technology can be very bad [problematic,] like that example [as demonstrated,] or [or] very good [beneficial—] just balance it out [the key is maintaining balance]. Don't do [Avoid engaging in] very bad thingsinstead [; instead,] instead do very good things with it.

Conclusion

To conclude, [In conclusion,] technology can be a powerful learning tool but also a potential learning threat to students. While technologies [technology] offer [offers] learning opportunities, eBooks and expert guides to students, it can also lead to bad [negative] outcomes. They [Students] They use technology in a bad way [way through] distraction, looking at things students shouldn't be looking at and [at, and] plagiarism. To avoid using technologies [technology] in a bad way [way,] try to balance what you do on technology. Use your devices wisely, follow the rules of the classroom and combine it [them] with traditional learning so students don't forget traditional learning methods. Good tools for teachers to use to watch [monitor] students can be [include] Hāpara [;] this can help students make better learning choices. As Sir Ken Robinson said [said,] "Technology is a tool. It's not good or bad by itself — it's how we use it that matters." By avoiding plagiarism, distraction or anything that can disrupt students, students can learn better and use technology in a good way without having to risk anything online.