| 5-Day Intensive Writing

Term 3 Holiday - 2025: Day 2 - Writing Homework

Section 1

#1: Introduction Paragraph

Strengths:

- Your opening question effectively engages readers by connecting to a common feeling about writing abilities
- You clearly state your main argument upfront, helping readers understand what the essay will discuss

Unclear Focus

→ Your introduction tries to cover too many ideas at once—creativity, vocabulary, and sentence structures—which makes it hard to follow. When you write "it not only helps to be creative, but also boosts your vocabulary and teaches sentence structures," you're listing three big points without explaining how they connect. This makes your main idea feel rushed rather than clear and focused.

Exemplar: Reading builds writing skills in powerful ways. By exposing you to well-crafted sentences and rich vocabulary, reading acts as a silent teacher, showing you how experienced writers communicate their ideas effectively.

#2: "Reading Can Boost Your Vocabulary" Paragraph

Strengths:

- You include specific statistics to support your point, which adds credibility to your argument
- Your topic sentence clearly tells readers what this paragraph will discuss

Weak Evidence Connection

→ Your paragraph mentions that "Oxford University" proves students remember 26% of new vocabulary, but you don't explain what this statistic means or how it actually helps with writing. The jump from remembering vocabulary to using it "appropriately" in writing isn't explained. Then you mention that "using vocabulary appropriately increases your results up to 84%," but this feels disconnected—results in what? Tests? Overall writing quality? Your reader needs to understand how these numbers relate to each other and to your main point about reading improving writing.

Exemplar: When you encounter unfamiliar words whilst reading, your brain naturally absorbs their meanings through context. Over time, these words become part of your own vocabulary, giving you more precise and interesting options when you write your own stories or essays.

#3: Conclusion Paragraph

Strengths:

- You effectively summarise the main points discussed in your essay
- Your final sentence reinforces the central message about reading's importance

Abrupt Transition and Narrow Example

→ Your conclusion suddenly mentions "writing a narrative" without preparing readers for this specific example. Throughout your essay, you've discussed writing in general terms, but now you narrow down to just narratives, which feels confusing. When you write "When you are just writing a narrative, then you can improve your narrative with creativity, vocabulary, and strong sentence structures," the word "just" makes it sound like these skills only matter for narratives. Actually, creativity, vocabulary, and sentence structures improve all types of writing—essays, reports, letters, and more.

Exemplar: Whether you're crafting a story, explaining an idea, or persuading readers of your viewpoint, the skills you gain from reading—creative thinking, rich vocabulary, and strong sentence structures—will strengthen every piece of writing you create.

Your essay demonstrates a solid understanding of why reading matters for writers, and you've organised your ideas into clear sections with topic sentences. However, your piece would benefit from deeper exploration of how reading actually transfers to writing improvement. Right now, you list statistics and make claims, but you don't show your reader the process behind these improvements.

For instance, in your vocabulary paragraph, rather than just stating that reading boosts vocabulary, you could explain what happens when a reader encounters a new word in a story—how the surrounding sentences help them understand it, and how seeing that word used multiple times in different books helps them remember it. This kind of detailed explanation helps your reader truly understand your argument rather than just accepting it because you've provided numbers.

Additionally, your use of statistics needs more careful handling. Whilst numbers can strengthen an argument, they need context to be meaningful. When you mention that students "can remember new vocabulary 26% on average," your reader might wonder: 26% of what? New words they encounter? Words from a specific list? Without this information, the statistic doesn't effectively support your point.

Your essay structure would also improve if you connected your paragraphs more smoothly. Each section feels separate rather than building upon the previous one. Consider adding sentences at the end of each paragraph that link to the next topic, showing how creativity, vocabulary, and sentence structure work together to improve writing.

Lastly, your conclusion could be strengthened by moving beyond simple summary. Instead of just restating your main points, you might discuss what this means for students practically—perhaps suggesting how much reading might help, or what types of books work best for improving writing skills. This gives your reader something concrete to take away from your essay.

Overall Score: 42/50

Section 2

#1 Have you ever felt that you are not that good of [at being] a writer? Well, to become a good writer, nothing can help you as much as reading can because it not only helps to be creative [develop creativity], but also boosts your vocabulary and teaches sentence structures. Reading helps you build new more [new, more] meaningful vocabulary and provides real-world examples of how to form proper sentences and use punctuation effectively, which then transfers to your own writing skills. This clearly proves that reading improves writing skills.

HOW CAN READING HELP BOOST CREATIVITY

#2 Clearly, reading boosts creativity by stimulating the brain, providing diverse knowledge and perspectives, and enhancing critical thinking skills. It allows readers to explore new ideas, visualize [visualise] imaginative worlds, and learn from the experiences of others, all of which build a richer "reservoir of experiences" and strengthen the mind's ability to think innovatively. It is proven by the University of Melbourne that students who read can improve creativity by 22% on average. Thus, reading can boost a person's creativity in writing.

READING CAN BOOST YOUR VOCABULARY

Certainly, reading can boost your vocabulary. It is proven by Oxford University that students can remember new vocabulary 26% on average [26% better on average]. Reading can help build new vocabulary to use in your writing appropriately. Statistics show that using vocabulary appropriately increases your results up to [by up to] 84%. Conclusively, this shows that reading can boost students [students'] vocabulary.

READING CAN HELP YOU BUILD SENTENCE STRUCTURES

#3 Reading also helps you create sentence structures. This is proven by the University of Sydney that wide reading, particularly of those [works by writers] who write well, will help you to absorb a great deal about the craft of writing—about structure [the structure] of sentences and patterns of paragraphs, word choice, punctuation, rhythm, and so on. Students who read books can get at least 20% higher marks for appropriate sentence structure. This can help you increase your writing results because appropriate sentence structures can increase your writing ability.

Conclusively, these are the ways to get better at writing. When you are just [simply] writing a narrative, then you can improve your narrative with creativity, vocabulary, and strong sentence structures. Thus, reading is the key to getting better at writing.