SAMPLE YEAR 3 PERSUASIVE TEXT RESPONSES

Topic: Children under 12 should not be allowed to have a mobile phone.

Sample 1
(BELOW AVERAGE RESPONSE)

*I think that all kids should have a mobile phone so they can call their friends when they want and send messages to them so they can have more friends. Their mum and dad will always know where they are because they can call them up and say where are you? You would never be lost if you had a mobile phone. You could use it to play games like Angry Birds when you are bored. Having a mobile phone would be awesome!*

◊ Simplistic content
◊ Shows a basic awareness of audience
◊ Minimal persuasive structure
◊ Ideas are unrelated and not elaborated
◊ Absence of paragraphing
◊ Incorrect sentence structure
◊ Poor punctuation awareness (e.g. using capital letters to start sentences)
◊ Many spelling errors for common words (e.g. they, want, having)
I agree that a child under 12 is too young to have a mobile phone. The main reason is that they might use it all the time and it would cost their parents a lot of money to pay the bills for all the calls they make. They are too young to know how much phone calls cost on a mobile phone – they cost a lot of money!

Another reason is that if they took the phone to school or the playground they could lose it. They would get into lots of trouble and have to go and see the principal. Then their mum or dad would have to buy them another one which costs even more money!

Another good reason is if they talk to their friends all the time on the mobile phone, they would not have time to do their homework and things like that. They would just stay up all night talking and laughing and not get any sleep! Then they could not concentrate at school the next day. That’s why I think that children should not have a mobile phone.

- Presents a clear argument with some supportive evidence
- Simple cohesive text with basic structural components
- Attempts to use persuasive devices
- Some correct use of commas and exclamation marks
- Uses paragraphing
- Generally uses correct punctuation
- Offers varied ideas with elaborated reasoning
- Mostly simple vocabulary
- Uses simple and compound sentences
- Some incorrect spelling of common words (e.g., could, would, should)
It is my opinion that children under 12 should be allowed to have a mobile phone. It is a very useful thing to have when you are young and it can help you in many different ways.

The first reason is that if there is an emergency, the child could ring the police or the ambulance or the fire station and get the help they need. Or if they were in danger, like if a stranger was trying to talk to them, they could ring somebody to ask them to come and help them like their parents or the police.

The second reason is that if their parents are separated or divorced, they can ring their mum or dad whenever they want if they are missing them or just want to say, “Hi.” That would help them feel better if they were feeling sad about their mum and dad not being together anymore.

The third reason is that if they are going somewhere after school like sport or ballet and it gets cancelled, they can ring their mum or dad to pick them up. Then they don’t have to wait by themselves for a long time, which can be very dangerous if you are a child.

I think all children should have a mobile phone to keep them safe and happy all the time.

- Successfully orients the audience by stating a clear position on the topic
- Uses a clearly identifiable persuasive text structure
- Text is cohesive and organised in paragraphs
- Ideas are supported with elaborated reasons
- Includes persuasive devices (e.g. it is my opinion & first, second, third reason)
- Effective control of punctuation
- Correct use of simple, complex and compound sentences
- Most common words spelt correctly and some difficult words correct (e.g. emergency, dangerous)