



Best Friend: Improving your IELTS response

Read the example and think about how to improve it..

When I was in elementary school, I was bullied three several times. But I didn't care about it because it wasn't so terrible and I didn't understand the meaning of the word "bullying". Actually, I didn't realize I was bullied then. But I felt isolated and had sad feeling then.

When I was in junior high school, I didn't have a lot of friends who went to the same elementary school. So, it was difficult to make new friends then. I felt it wasn't the same situation as before. Then I started to be mindful not to bully me. After a while, I could make totally different type of friends. Luckily, I wasn't bullied in junior high school. I learned it depends on how to behave towards others that what type of friends will you make.

When I was in high school, I noticed the way I behave towards others had a bad aspect. After a while I went to high school, I started to feel not want to go to high school because I didn't want to meet my friends. Then I noticed I had only ingratiated my self with friends. I didn't enjoy talking and playing. I learned not to bully by them is not equal to get along with them.

How can you improve the writing?

There needs to be a clear opening sentence in each paragraph to allow the reader to follow your main point.

I have to say that I didn't make any close friends at school. When I was at elementary school, I was bullied several times but I didn't care about it at that time. It was "harmless" fun and I didn't realize I was even been bullied as I was too young to understand the meaning of this word. However, I did feel isolated and felt a little saddened by this experience. I did make some friends though but not close ones.

When I started junior high school, however, I found that very few classmate from my elementary school entered the same junior high. As a result, it was difficult for me to make new friends. Although I felt it wasn't the same situation as at elementary, I started to be more mindful not to be bullied. After a while, I could make a totally different type of friend. Luckily, I wasn't bullied at this school. I learned it depends on how you behave towards others and this behavior also results in what type of friends you make.

At first, this seemed fine but when I moved to their high school, I noticed this way I behaved towards others had a bad side – I wasn't kind to others. After a while, I started to feel like I did not want to go to school because I didn't want to meet those "friends" as I could not be myself. I noticed I had only tried to please these so-called friends and not be honest with myself. I didn't enjoy talking or hanging out with them. I learned not being bullied by them is not the same as getting along with them.



From the above work, try to chunk the speech

Find the pause – Chunking short / longer //

CAPITALISE the stressed (important) word

I LIKE this class / because the teacher is GOOD / and everyone is FRIENDly. // ALso, / my English is getting BETter. //

I have to say / that I didn't make any close friends at school. // When I was at elementary school, / I was bullied several times / but I didn't care about it at that time. // It was "harmless" fun / and I didn't realize / I was even been bullied / as I was too young / to understand the meaning of this word. // However, / I did feel isolated / and felt a little saddened by this experience. // I did make some friends though / but not close ones. //

When I started junior high school, / however, / I found that / very few classmate from my elementary school / entered the same junior high. // As a result, / it was difficult for me to make new friends. // Although I felt it wasn't the same situation as at elementary, / I started to be more mindful not to be bullied. // After a while, / I could make a totally different type of friend. // Luckily, / I wasn't bullied at this school. // I learned it depends on how you behave towards others / and this behavior also results in what type of friends you make. //

At first, / this seemed fine / but when I moved to their high school, / I noticed this way I behaved towards others had a bad side / – I wasn't kind to others. // After a while, / I started to feel like I did not want to go to school / because I didn't want to meet those "friends" / as I could not be myself. // I noticed I had only tried to please these so-called friends / and not be honest with myself. // I didn't enjoy talking or hanging out with them. // I learned / not being bullied by them / is not the same as getting along with them. //