



**TOP SCOPE
COLLEGE**

SST6 SimuTest 43-2

Persuasive Writing

Time Allowed: 25 min

Write a persuasive essay responding to the statement: ‘It can be healthy not to want to socialise with friends all the time.’

Draw from the stimulus material and your own ideas.

‘It is important to have lots of friends, different kinds of friends and to socialise on a daily basis. If a young person spends time alone, they can become withdrawn and lose their social skills. We learn from friends because they are different to us and because they come from different homes with different influences. Friends enrich one’s life, providing stimulation through the sharing of different interests, experiences and lots of good fun.’

‘Whilst it is important to have at least one good friend and more if you are lucky, it is also very valuable to embrace ‘alone time’. Being alone does not necessarily mean one is lonely. In fact, some people enjoy quiet alone time and thrive on time to pursue their personal creative interests and hobbies. A young person needs time alone to say, practise the piano, or write stories, or read good books. Being comfortable being alone is an important step to independence in life.’