The text below is the beginning of a piece of work submitted by a KS3 student in response to the question: **Is there an external world?**

We’re going to look at this from two perspectives.

1. This has been submitted as a draft following Tutorial 5 and you are preparing verbal feedback and written feedback for Tutorial 6.
2. This is the final submission and you are preparing verbal and written summary feedback for Tutorial 7.

**What feedback would you give?**

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| Feedback T6 | Student Response: | Feedback T7 |
|  | External world is a concept of a world made up of things and events that can be experienced, but which only exist independently of our cognitive state, meaning we have not interfered with it. The idea that a reality exists outside our own perception.  Susana Martinez Conde (a Spanish-American neuroscientist and science writer) describes our reality as a simulation and that it is different from experience. Our experience is generated by our brain, it is made using electrical impulses. Susana argues that our brain is part of the external world, but what happens inside it is not, therefore our perceptions are internal. She points out the blind spot, which is a small part at the back of our eyes located where our optic nerve meets the retina, there are does not have any light sensitive-receptors called Rods and Cones leaving us with a blind spot, however our brain fills in the blind spot using the information it has. She also talks about dreams and how they feel real even though they are not real.  This information helps me prove my point because it suggests what we experience is not the reality. It also means there no way of knowing if there is an external world yet since we can’t go beyond our perceptions. Since our dreams feel so real, it suggests our reality could also be not in the external world as there is no way of proving what we experience is real or not.  Karl Friston (a British theoretical neuroscientist) says that since our reality only exists in our mind, there might be nothing beyond our brain. He also says that everyone has different reality which means our reality is also not external. His theory the external world triggers our experience, this means that there has to be an external world from where our experience infers.  This evaluate my point since it says that we have some sort of connections to the external world as experience occurs through inference, which implies there is something in the external world to infer to. |  |