## Section 1

#1

"It's more than a place with books. It's a quiet, safe spot where kids learn, adults get help, and people feel like they are sitting on a cloud in the sky."

### Strengths:

- You've used emotive language to create a vivid image of the library's atmosphere
- You've highlighted multiple benefits for different community members

**Weaknesses:** Underdeveloped comparison  $\rightarrow$  Your comparison to "sitting on a cloud in the sky" is creative but needs more connection to why this feeling matters. You could strengthen this by explaining how this peaceful environment benefits people specifically.

Exemplar: "It's more than a place with books. It's a quiet, safe haven where kids discover new worlds through reading, adults access vital resources, and everyone finds a peaceful escape from their busy lives—something our community desperately needs."

#### #2

"Think about what the library looks like before you knock it down. The floors creak when you walk across them because so many people have been there over the decades. You can smell the old books and paper, and it makes you feel calm."

#### Strengths:

- You've used sensory details (sound, smell) to create a vivid picture
- You've connected the physical features to emotional responses

**Weaknesses:** Missing persuasive angle  $\rightarrow$  While your description is vivid, you haven't clearly connected these characteristics to why the library should be saved. The sensory details need to be linked more directly to your argument about preservation.

Exemplar: "Before you decide to demolish our library, walk through it once more. Listen to the floors that creak from decades of community footsteps. Breathe in the calming scent of books that have educated generations. These irreplaceable qualities make our library a historical treasure worth preserving, not destroying." "I get that the city might want to build something new or make space, but please don't do it like this. Can't we fix up the library instead of destroying it? Once it's gone, we won't get it back!"

#### Strengths:

- You've acknowledged the opposition's viewpoint
- You've offered an alternative solution to demolition

**Weaknesses:** Undeveloped alternative  $\rightarrow$  You mention fixing up the library but don't provide any specific suggestions for how this could be done or why it would be beneficial compared to demolition.

# Exemplar: "I understand the city's desire for development, but demolition isn't the only option. Why not renovate our beloved library instead? We could modernise the facilities while preserving its historical character—giving our community the best of both worlds. Once demolished, this irreplaceable community treasure will be lost forever."

■ Your persuasive letter shows genuine passion for saving the library, but could be more effective with better organisation. Try grouping similar ideas together—put all the points about community benefits in one paragraph, historical value in another, and your proposed solutions in a third. Your personal stories about your brother and community members using the library are powerful, but you could make them even stronger by directly stating why these examples matter. Also, try strengthening your opening and closing paragraphs. Start with a clear statement of your purpose and end with a strong call to action telling the counsellor exactly what you want them to do. You've included some good descriptive details about the library, but make sure each description connects back to your main argument about why the library should be saved.

#### Overall Score: 40/50

## Section 2

Dear Counseller, 33 Chipmunk Street 2100 14 April 2015

I'm writing because I really don't want the library~~,~~ to be demolished. That building means a lot to so many people in this area.

#1 It's more than a place with books. It's a quiet, safe spot where kids learn, adults get help, and people feel like they are sitting on a cloud in the sky.

Tearing it down feels wrong and sad. Why would we get rid of one of the only places where everyone is welcome? Why would we take away a space where people can go without having to

buy something? Why take away books, help, and quiet from people who normally don't get it and its [it's] their only time to get it.

#2 Think about what the library looks like before you knock it down. The floors creak when you walk across them because so many people have been there over the decades. You can smell the old books and paper, and it makes you feel calm. The windows are big and bright, and sometimes you can see kids sitting in the corner reading or drawing (that's what my brother does in the library). There are comfy chairs where older people sit with a newspaper or a book. Some of them are lonely and just need a place to sit calm. The computers are almost always busy since people need it [them] for work, doing homework, or learning many new things they can't do at home. This place is special, even if it's not shiny or new.

It makes no sense to take this away from these people. The library helps people in so many ways. Some families need a space to relax, because their [they're] exhausted of [with] each other, but at the library, they can read, do schoolwork, or even just sit somewhere warm. You can't get that kind of help anywhere even if you search a [for a] million years. So where are those people supposed to go now?

#3 I get that the city might want to build something new or make space, but please don't do it like this. Can't we fix up the library instead of destroying it? Once it's gone, we won't get it back! A new building won't have the same feeling, or the same anything. This is about more than just walls and bookshelves, it's about people, community, and giving everyone a fair chance.

So, we should certainly think about what this means to the people in this community. Don't let us down and take away something we love. Keep the library!!! Save this place!

Yours Sincerely, Mia