

Section 1:

#1 (Paragraph 2)

Strengths: ■ Your article effectively identifies multiple sources of pollution affecting Silverwater Creek. ■ You make good connections between industrial activities and specific pollutants.

Weaknesses: Underdeveloped impact details → Your explanation of how industrial runoff affects the creek lacks specific examples. Phrases like "occasionally discharged chemicals" and "elevated levels of heavy metals" are vague. A more vivid description of exactly how these pollutants change the water would strengthen your argument.

Exemplar: *The industrial facilities bordering Silverwater Creek have released harmful chemicals that turn the once-clear water a murky brown, with concerning levels of lead and mercury detected in recent water samples.*

#2 (Paragraph 3)

Strengths: ■ You effectively link environmental concerns to human health impacts. ■ You mention specific recreational activities that are affected by pollution.

Weaknesses: Limited personal connection → Your discussion about health risks remains general with phrases like "serious health risks" and "gastrointestinal illnesses." Adding a personal element, such as how local families have had to change their traditions or activities due to pollution, would make this section more compelling.

Exemplar: *Local residents like the Thompson family, who have fished in Silverwater Creek for three generations, can no longer enjoy their weekend fishing trips as health officials have posted warning signs along the banks due to dangerous bacteria levels.*

#3 (Paragraph 4)

Strengths: ■ You highlight positive community action to address the pollution issue. ■ You mention both clean-up campaigns and educational programs as solutions.

Weaknesses: Lack of specific initiatives → Your writing mentions "local governments and community organizations" but doesn't name any specific groups or projects. Including the names of actual clean-up campaigns or community groups would make your article more credible and informative.

Exemplar: *The Friends of Silverwater volunteer group, which organises monthly creek clean-ups, has removed over 500 kilograms of rubbish from the waterway this year alone, resulting in the return of native fish species to certain sections of the creek.*

■ Your feature article provides a solid overview of the pollution issues affecting Silverwater Creek, but could benefit from more vivid details and specific examples. The structure flows logically from problem to solutions, which helps readers understand the issue. To improve your piece, consider including more sensory details about how the creek looks, smells, or sounds when polluted versus clean. Also, adding quotes or perspectives from local residents, environmental experts, or government officials would make your article more engaging and credible. Your conclusion effectively summarises the main points, but could be strengthened by ending with a thought-provoking statement or call to action that encourages readers to get involved in protecting Silverwater Creek.

Overall Score: 43/50

Section 2:

Silverwater Creek: Clean Creek Or Polluted Wasteland?

The pollution of Silverwater Creek is a significant environmental issue that has garnered increasing attention in recent years. This waterway, which runs through various urban and suburban regions, serves multiple purposes, including recreational activities and supporting local ecosystems. However, as industrial and residential developments have expanded, the health of Silverwater Creek has been severely compromised by pollution.

#1 Pollution in Silverwater Creek can be attributed to several key factors, including industrial runoff, littering, and urban stormwater drainage. Industrial facilities located near the creek have occasionally discharged chemicals and waste products into the water. This has resulted in elevated levels of heavy metals and toxins, posing a risk not only to aquatic life but also to the health of communities that rely on the creek for recreation and irrigation. Additionally, the increase in litter and plastic waste from nearby neighborhoods [neighbourhoods] has contributed to the degradation of the creek's water quality, affecting both its aesthetic and ecological value.

#2 The health of the creek is not merely an environmental concern; it also has significant implications for local residents. Many people enjoy fishing, swimming, and picnicking along Silverwater Creek, but pollution renders these activities dangerous. High levels of bacteria and harmful substances in the water can lead to serious health risks, including gastrointestinal illnesses. Public health campaigns have emphasized the importance of keeping the creek clean, yet the challenge remains daunting in the face of ongoing pollution.

#3 In recent years, local governments and community ~~organizations~~ [organisations] have begun initiatives to address the pollution in Silverwater Creek. These efforts include regular clean-up campaigns to remove litter and debris, as well as educational programs aimed at raising awareness about the importance of maintaining water quality. Additionally, stricter regulations on industrial discharges have been proposed to keep harmful waste from entering the creek. These community-driven efforts have resulted in positive changes, with reports of improved water quality and increased local engagement in conservation activities.

Nevertheless, more work needs to be done to ensure the long-term health of Silverwater Creek. Strategies need to be implemented not only for cleaning up existing pollution but also for preventing future contamination. Enhancing green infrastructure, such as rain gardens and permeable pavements, can help manage stormwater runoff and reduce pollutants entering the creek. Public policies that promote sustainable development and stricter enforcement of environmental regulations are critical in this fight against pollution.

In conclusion, the pollution of Silverwater Creek represents a challenging issue that affects both the environment and the health of local communities. While recent initiatives show promise in mitigating some of the problems, a comprehensive approach is necessary to ensure the creek's future vitality. Continuous education, community involvement, and effective policy implementation will be key to restoring and preserving Silverwater Creek for generations to come.