

Section 1:

#1

Strengths: ■ Your opening paragraph creates a strong visual contrast between the creek's past beauty and its current polluted state. ■ You effectively use personal anecdotes by mentioning Mia Santos and her children to make the issue relatable to readers.

Weaknesses: The emotive language is too accusatory → Your direct accusations like "Greedy and selfish, only wanting to satisfy your own needs" and "This should not be tolerated!" may alienate readers rather than persuade them. Using such confrontational tone early in the article might make readers defensive instead of receptive to your message.

Exemplar: *Instead of accusing readers directly, you could write: "The transformation of this once-vibrant waterway raises important questions about our collective responsibility toward natural resources that sustain both wildlife and our communities."*

#2

Strengths: ■ You include expert testimony from Dr. Murphy which adds credibility to your argument. ■ Your connection between pollution and health impacts creates urgency around the issue.

Weaknesses: Imprecise statistics and causation claims → Your article states "These statistics have a direct causation between the number of children who are now diagnosed with asthma after 56 years and those who weren't before the pollution started." This makes a definitive causation claim when correlation would be more accurate, and the timeframe of "56 years" is mentioned twice without clear context.

Exemplar: *"According to Dr. Murphy, EPA scientist, 'Over the past five decades, pollution levels in the creek have increased by 91%. During this same period, we've observed a significant rise in asthma diagnoses among children who swim in these waters.'"*

#3

Strengths: ■ You present the opposing viewpoint from industry representatives, which shows balanced reporting. ■ Your writing acknowledges economic concerns while still advocating for environmental protection.

Weaknesses: Unsubstantiated claims about business collapse → You make definitive predictions about the industry's future ("Your business would eventually collapse") without supporting evidence. This weakens your argument by appearing to make unfounded claims rather than presenting a reasoned case.

Exemplar: *"While industrial representatives like John express concerns about job losses, many environmental economists suggest that sustainable business practices could protect both the creek's ecosystem and local employment opportunities in the long term."*

■ Your feature article shows passion for environmental protection and raises important concerns about pollution in Silverwater Creek. The inclusion of health impacts on children and wildlife creates a compelling reason for readers to care. However, your writing would benefit from a more balanced tone that invites readers to join your cause rather than blaming them. Try presenting more specific solutions and local initiatives readers could support. Also, your article jumps between emotional appeals and statistics in a way that sometimes feels disconnected. Creating smoother transitions between paragraphs would help readers follow your argument more easily. Your concluding paragraph offers hope, which is effective, but could be strengthened by mentioning specific actions the community could take to help restore the creek. Additionally, providing more context about the creek's historical and cultural significance to the community would deepen readers' connection to your message.

Overall Score: 41/50

Section 2:

Silverwater Creek Under Siege: Pollution Threatens Local Ecosystem

#1 The glimmer of Silverwater creek was once full of vibrant rays, of UV light, with the water illuminating a bioluminescent blue light. However, now it has turned into a graveyard of people's rubbish, with every piece of trash creating a black shadow, soon to cast over all the light in the world. ~~Destroying a noble and sensitive river, is this what human civilisation has become? Greedy and selfish, only wanting to satisfy your own needs. This should not be tolerated!~~ [Is the destruction of this noble and sensitive river what we've allowed to happen? This ongoing damage to our natural resources raises serious concerns for our community.] Mia Santos, a well-known media influencer has shown reports of her three children coming back to their home with symptoms of asthma after taking a dip in the creek. This could happen to ourselves, and that's why we need to raise awareness about this issue.

#2 The Silverwater creek is a sanctuary that protects the beauty of itself, however, people have transformed it into a garbage bin. A place for children to perish or get severely injured through diseases or through plastic wrapping around their necks. Dr Murphy, a scientist who works for the EPA, states ~~"Over the past few decades (56 years to be exact), the amount of pollution in the river has increased by 91%. These statistics have a direct causation between the number of children who are now diagnosed with asthma after 56 years and those who weren't before the pollution started."~~ ["Over the past five decades, the amount of pollution in the river has increased by 91%. These statistics show a strong connection between rising pollution levels and the increasing number of children diagnosed with asthma in our community."] The number of children's deaths is a big issue, and can affect all of us in many different ways. The number of parents who weep after they see their child exit the river sick is heartbreaking.

This well-known river has had its place in our Earth for many years. Many people would think that we should respect it, but they don't. As statistics from the NOAA show, approximately 100 kilograms of trash are thrown into the bin each month, and this contributes to 3000 plastics thrown into waste per month. With these numbers, 400 turtles die, 500 fish die, 120 dolphins die, and 40 whales die on average, all in just one month. The garbage thrown into the river flows in the direction of the creek, eventually hitting a mass area of liquid nitrogen, where a lot of animals live. Do you really want these precious animals to die?

#3 Currently, industrial activity along Silverwater creek argues that environmental regulations would threaten their business, and potentially the people they employ. "We employ over 200 people per year. If you place a ban on our business, our employees would go homeless," as according to John, the host of the industry working on Silverwater creek. However this is not the case. ~~Imagine the many millions of lives that would be affected if your pollution continues, the people not taken into consideration. In the long run, your business would eventually collapse after the river gets into a state of mass pollution.~~ [Imagine how many lives—both human and wildlife—are affected when pollution continues unchecked. Sustainable business practices could actually protect both jobs and the environment for the long term.] We could prevent that now by stopping your activities around the creek, as it would prevent the pollution in the river. Your industry is going to end one way or another.

The children of the community that surrounds Silverwater creek will have to grow up never seeing the previous beauty of the river. This is impossible to change, but it is still possible to return the creek to something better than its former glory, if we all work together. Let's make this world a better place, let's make Silverwater Creek glorious again, and let's make this community free from pollution.