

Section 1:

#1: First paragraph

Strengths: ■ Your vivid imagery creates a powerful emotional connection through phrases like "a torrent of nostalgic anguish inundated him." ■ Your use of contrast between past and present effectively establishes the article's theme.

Weaknesses: Overuse of complex metaphors → Your opening paragraph contains several metaphors stacked together that may confuse readers. Phrases like "distorted nightmare," "blinded monstrosity," and "unsettling silence of betrayal" appear in quick succession without giving readers time to process each image.

Exemplar: *"This river is not what it once was. It has become lifeless and dangerous - a tragic shadow of the vibrant waterway where I once played as a child."*

#2: Fourth paragraph

Strengths: ■ Your personification of the creek having a "heartbeat" creates a compelling image of the river as a living entity. ■ Your inclusion of a child's perspective through the quote from Allan Thomper adds emotional impact.

Weaknesses: Inconsistent tone → The paragraph shifts dramatically between poetic language and medical terminology. Words like "laceration," "miasma," and "mephitic" alongside more straightforward descriptions create an uneven reading experience that may confuse your audience.

Exemplar: *"The creek's pollution is deeply affecting our community. Instead of the peaceful sounds of our once healthy creek, ten-year-old Allan Thomper says he now hears 'elegies of a funeral,' his voice breaking with sadness."*

#3: Final paragraph

Strengths: ■ Your use of repetition with "Our children must not..." creates a powerful rhythm that emphasizes your main message. ■ Your call to action effectively ties back to the emotional story established at the beginning.

Weaknesses: Incomplete conclusion → Your final paragraph builds momentum but ends abruptly mid-sentence with "Our future generations must not see this". The conclusion lacks a

clear final statement that would tie your ideas together and leave readers with a specific takeaway or action.

Exemplar: *"Our children deserve to inherit a clean, vibrant Silverwater Creek. With united community action and commitment, we can restore this precious waterway to its former glory."*

■ Your feature article effectively uses emotive language and personal stories to highlight the environmental crisis at Silverwater Creek. The inclusion of various perspectives – from a toxicologist to a young child and concerned parents – helps create a well-rounded picture of the issue. However, your writing would benefit from more consistent pacing and clearer organization. Some paragraphs contain too many different ideas, making it difficult for readers to follow your main points. Additionally, while your descriptive language is powerful, sometimes the metaphors become overwhelming and distract from the core message. Try balancing vivid descriptions with more straightforward explanations. Also, make sure to complete your thoughts, especially in the conclusion, to leave readers with a clear understanding of your message and what actions they might take. Consider organizing your paragraphs around specific themes – perhaps one focusing on health impacts, another on community reactions, and a third on possible solutions.

Score: 35/50

Section 2:

Silverwater Creek: A Sanctuary of Life, or a Cemetery of Forgotten Souls

#1: 53-year-old Adam Smith, founder of Smith Toxicology, pensively holds a photograph of himself as a child, wading in these very waters that once embraced him with warmth, the waves caressing him with jubilation. As he stands now on the bank of this grim wasteland, a torrent of nostalgic anguish ~~inundated~~ [inundates] him, as he ~~uttered~~ [utters] the words, "This river is not what it once was. It is a distorted nightmare, a blinded monstrosity now – this is death now." Withered skeletons of once flourishing species now lie as fossils, eternally trapped in the relentless river current. An unsettling silence of betrayal replaces the vibrant symphony of life that once flourished here. Our children deserve better.

Laboratory analysis conducted by the Bureau of Environmental Services show that a staggering 93.64% of the 500 samples cause skin rash on contact, the rest causing severe swelling. Long exposure to the multiple cyanotoxins that abode in the waters, such as Microcystins, emerging from the algae, promotes tumour growth which increases the risk of cancer. These toxins can also cause gastrointestinal discomfort and food poisoning. Other natural toxins in the waters

such as arsenic and lead are extremely detrimental to one's health and can cause acute poisoning leading to symptoms of vomiting and diarrhoea. Children around the area even report strange unseen skin conditions, unknown to dermatological experts, as if nuclear radiation swarms them. 2nd degree skin burns occur in this minor town of Silverwater Heights, all residents urged to leave the area.

Dr. Felix Kane proclaims that "Over the course of the past three years, 53% of youth poisoning is caused by extended exposure to contaminated waters, this number insidiously growing higher through time. This number correlates with the pollution levels in Australia, indicating a link between these variables." Disturbingly, children living 300 metres away from this river can experience skin rash and acute poisoning, and children living two kilometres away from this river experience itching and severe swelling. Not just our children, but generations to come will face the impact that we created.

#2: The creek's deterioration is etching a laceration through the community's collective heart, contaminating our lives as well as itself. The intoxicating miasma of the metallic mephitic stream of blood running down the river sends intrusive toxins that invisibly infiltrate the air. "In place of the soothing heartbeat that our once vibrant creek provided, I now hear elegies of a funeral", ten year old child, Allan Thomper] says, his voice cracking in ~~miserability~~ [misery].

Just 3 years ago, this stream became a battlefield, its waves ~~tantalising~~ [tantalising] the dead bodies instead of caressing them. The vigilant heartbeat of the river is now being artificially mimicked by the tyrannic pulsation of industrialisation. "These are the very waters where I, my parents, and my grandparents once played. To steal our descendants' right to this playground, to corrupt the river with immoral factories—blinded by profit—that is inhumane," a concerned parent expresses, his voice heavy with anguish at the sight of the creek's pollution.

Opponents of rehabilitating this river may argue that installing filters will threaten to imbalance economic stability, claiming that continued industrial activity ensures a steady flow of income, compared to the potential economic crisis that may happen. I respect this argument as it acknowledges real-world problems such as money and it considers the benefits and negatives of both. However, I believe that we should filter the stream, as the diseases and symptoms that could happen are unknown to the medical world, an enigma to what money can solve. Additionally, the pain of these skin conditions outweighs any possible profit that could be gained.

As Emily Brown, a caring mother tearfully recounts, "After curiously touching the water, my poor four-year-old daughter developed rashes that tormented her throughout the night – furiously itching at three seemingly innocent red spots etched into her skin. She makes her rash swell, and then cries herself to sleep. What kind of mother could experience this suffering, knowing that there is an easy solution?" Furthermore, by polluting the river, investment properties and property value that is within the neighbourhood has been plummeting at an average of 41% per year. This value is interconnected with the general lack of interest towards this area as the river causes severe symptoms. The economic argument, though based on a strong premise, is

outweighed by the consequences of failing to filter Silverwater Creek, also flawed by the decrease of property value.

#3: Silverwater Creek is not beyond saving. Now, with the use of cleaning technologies and environmental restoration methods laying on our palms, we can reverse the harm. But technology alone is not the answer. It takes united commitment, united action, a united community. We can rejuvenate the souls that had once called this perished paradise home. Our children must not hear of a rumoured now forsaken paradise. Our children must not inherit a corrupted realm that fell because of humanity's ignorance. Our children must not touch a shadowed hope given to Death because of sheer indifference. Our future generations must not see this ~~[sentence is incomplete]~~ [devastation we have allowed to happen. Together, we can restore Silverwater Creek to its former glory.]