

Section 1:

#1 "11-year-old Daniel stands at the grey, murky water. His fists are clenched against the sight of the pollution and chaos that our ocean is facing. As a child, he used to play in the pond. The sheer joy of catching fish or walking in the clear, shining water has now been replaced by guilt, anger and disappointment."

Strengths: ■ Your opening uses a specific character to create an emotional connection with readers. ■ You effectively contrast the past beauty with the current pollution problem.

Weaknesses: Inconsistent setting → You switch between referring to the body of water as an "ocean," "pond," and later "river" which creates confusion for readers. Pick one consistent term throughout your article.

Exemplar: ***11-year-old Daniel stands at the grey, murky water of Goldlake River. His fists are clenched against the sight of the pollution and chaos that our once-beautiful river is facing.***

#2 "Despite the high amounts of plastic that has been dunked in, and the wildlife that has almost been obliterated thanks to the unsuitable habitat wiping most of the food sources fish used to eat, scientists claim that Goldlake is still redeemable and that if we got everyone working to clean Goldlake and help re-establish the population of marine life that once thrived, we can restore the barren wasteland back to its former glory."

Strengths: ■ Your paragraph creates urgency by explaining the serious environmental damage. ■ You offer hope by mentioning that the situation can be reversed with community effort.

Weaknesses: Run-on sentence → This extremely long sentence contains too many ideas packed together, making it difficult for readers to follow. Breaking it into smaller sentences would improve clarity.

Exemplar: ***Despite the high amounts of plastic pollution in Goldlake, scientists claim the river can still be saved. With everyone working together to clean the water and re-establish marine life, we can restore our barren wasteland back to its former glory.***

#3 "We need everyone to contribute, and that includes you! We need all the help we can get if we are to embark on such a risky journey, as if we fail, we will waste the resources we spent. It is essential that we involve officials and those in power as well, since they have the materials that we don't have."

Strengths: ■ Your call to action directly engages the reader with the exclamation point and "you!" ■ You identify different groups needed for the clean-up effort (individuals and officials).

Weaknesses: Negative framing → Focusing on "wasting resources if we fail" creates unnecessary doubt in readers rather than inspiring action. The paragraph would be stronger if it focused on positive outcomes.

Exemplar: ***We need everyone to contribute, and that includes you! Your help is vital as we embark on this important journey to restore Goldlake. By involving both community members and officials who have access to necessary resources, we can make a tremendous difference.***

■ Your feature article creates a strong emotional appeal about the pollution of Goldlake river. The use of personal stories like Daniel's experience and Officer Christian's family helps readers connect with the issue. However, your article would benefit from a clearer structure with a stronger introduction that immediately identifies Goldlake as a river (not an ocean or pond). Also, try breaking up longer sentences into shorter ones to make your ideas easier to follow.

Additionally, your article would be more effective if you included specific actions readers can take to help. Instead of just asking them to "assist us," provide 2-3 concrete steps they could follow, such as joining clean-up days or reducing their plastic use.

The statistics about property values add important context, but you could connect these facts more clearly to your main message about saving the river. Your conclusion effectively reminds readers why Goldlake matters emotionally, but adding a final specific call to action would make your ending more powerful.

Finally, your writing uses emotional language effectively, but ensure that emotions are balanced with practical information about how the river can actually be restored. This would make your piece more convincing and actionable for your readers.

Score: 43/50

Section 2:

POLLUTION ON OUR RIVERS, ACT NOW!

#1 11-year-old Daniel stands at the grey, murky water. His fists are clenched against the sight of the pollution and chaos that our ~~ocean~~ [river] is facing. As a child, he used to play in the ~~pond~~ [river]. The sheer joy of catching fish or walking in the clear, shining water has now been replaced by guilt, anger and disappointment. Daniel is only one of the many civilians with deep struggles on this topic. Many of us, young and old are secretly mourning the destruction of Goldlake, our once beloved river. "It's truly heartbreaking." Cries Officer Christian, when asked

to state his opinion, "My wife and children once loved playing in Goldlake, but now, my sister, Selene, is constantly looking for a new place to move."

That's right, it's surveyed that 64% of us want to sell our houses and move somewhere else. The reason not many of us have yet is that because of the inconvenient location we live in, (Goldlakes pollution has created an undesirable area of living, as those who are will constantly be breathing in harsh chemicals that can damage our body overtime. Also, it creates a horrible stench that lingers day and night.) ~~property values have shown to degrade over time, minimising property values to a shell of 60% of what they previously were a year ago.~~ [property values have shown to degrade over time, falling to just 60% of what they were a year ago.] The amount of difficulty to find buyers combines with the deduction of property values to ensure that selling your house for money to get a new one will be almost impossible.

But would you like to know what ISN'T impossible? It's saving Goldlake. We have been working with a team of advanced scientists and professors that are part of the A-CTRC (Anti-cruelty to rivers corporation is a highly respected team of researchers, biologists and scientists that go around conducting experiments on rivers and giving advice on how to improve their state.) and they have been monitoring the health of Goldlake. "We believe that Goldlake can be saved." Dr Cross, leader of the A-CTRC, claimed after completing his tests. Now, we know what you're thinking, "What? Really? And how?". Well, stay tuned, because we're answering that question now.

#2 Despite the high amounts of plastic that has been dumped in, and the wildlife that has almost been obliterated thanks to the unsuitable habitat wiping most of the food sources fish used to eat, scientists claim that Goldlake is still redeemable and that if we got everyone working to clean Goldlake and help re-establish the population of marine life that once thrived, we can restore the barren wasteland back to its former glory. A gleaming river, with fish swimming happily while the children play, and adults relax. We need everyone to contribute, and that includes you! We need all the help we can get if we are to embark on such a risky journey, as if we fail, we will waste the resources we spent. It is essential that we involve officials and those in power as well, since they have the materials that we don't have.

Dr Cross has confirmed he will send a few scientists to help supply items such as gas masks and fish in bowls to help regrow the river. His scientists will work with the local news broadcast team, 8-news, to spread the message around the city and inspire and inform more people about the trouble Goldlake is facing. Chief news reporter Patricia Sid is excited to broadcast about the river, as she also wants to help. "As a teenager, I spent all of my free time in Goldlake. The intoxicating feeling of hanging out with my friends was something I could never get bored of! Even though Goldlake is losing the shiny condition it once held, I still hold the memories close. Helping other teenagers have the same feelings will truly make my day." She stated, on TV.

#3 Despite the numerous efforts we have taken to restore our river, it is vital that you help us in our quest. Only with the help of ~~out~~ [our] community can we reinstate Goldlake and its population. Treat it as a second home to you, because it is. The amount of memories everyone

holds about this lake are dear and held with high esteem. Even if Goldlake has forgotten how beautiful it once was, we haven't, and that is exactly why we must help it remember. Because it means so much to us. We kindly ask you to assist us in our journey to save Goldlake. It needs you, and you need it.