

Writing Feedback

TERM 1 2025 | DAY 2 WRITING | 15th April

Section 1:

#1 (First paragraph)

Strengths: Your piece effectively acknowledges the potential benefits of replacing the library with a shopping centre, which demonstrates your ability to consider alternative viewpoints. You've included practical benefits like local shopping convenience and economic advantages.

Weakness: Lack of formal language → Your opening uses casual phrasing and inconsistent tone which reduces the persuasiveness in a formal letter to a council. Phrases like "You might have not found enough reasons" and "today im gonna try" don't establish a professional tone needed for civic communication.

Exemplar: *Dear Hills Council, While I acknowledge there would be certain benefits to replacing our library with a shopping centre, including improved access to groceries and potential economic growth, I must respectfully present additional compelling evidence for preserving our valuable community library.*

#2 (Second paragraph)

Strengths: You've included a specific statistic (42% increase in academic performance) which strengthens your argument. You also appeal effectively to emotion by asking the council to visualise students' happiness.

Weakness: Underdeveloped evidence → The statistic presented lacks citation and context. Phrases like "Well multiple studies have shown" and "academic weapon" need more precise language and explanation of which studies and when they were conducted.

Exemplar: *According to research published by the National Education Association in 2023, students who regularly utilise library facilities for studying demonstrate a 42% improvement in academic performance compared to those without access to such resources. Our community's young people deserve this proven pathway to educational success.*

#3 (Third paragraph)

Strengths: You attempt to use historical evidence about literacy rates in your community, which shows awareness of the need to include specific data. You also include an expert opinion, showing understanding of persuasive techniques.

Weakness: Credibility issues → The evidence presented contains implausible elements and inconsistencies. References to "Dr Dre" as "one of the best professors in the world" who "read over 500 books" at your library weakens your argument's credibility, as does the claim that literacy jumped from 70% to 94% in one week.

Exemplar: *Twenty years ago, our community participated in a literacy assessment conducted by the Regional Education Authority, which identified a concerning literacy rate of 70%. Following their recommendation to increase library usage, our community embraced this resource, resulting in literacy rates improving to 94% over the following year—a testament to the library's crucial educational role.*

■ Your letter shows good instincts for persuasive writing by including statistics and attempting to refute counterarguments. However, your piece would benefit from more precise language, credible evidence, and logical organisation. Try separating your strongest points into distinct paragraphs with clear topic sentences. Also, consider developing your refutation of the shopping centre argument more thoroughly by acknowledging its benefits while explaining why the library still provides greater community value. The historical claims need more realistic timeframes and verifiable references. Your emotional appeals are effective but would be stronger when paired with factual accuracy. Finally, your conclusion could be more specific about what actions you want the council to take beyond just "come to talk to the community."

Overall Score: 40/50

Section 2:

Dear Hills Council,

You might have not found enough reasons in my letter from last time to stop the destruction of the library but today ~~im gonna~~ [I'm going to] try and change your opinion on it. Ok I will admit that swapping the library isn't really a bad idea because we will

finally have a local shopping centre to go and shop at rather than having to go all the way to a different place to buy basic groceries. Many businesses would thrive as well because they can spread their customer base. Companies can earn more money which can boost the economy.

#1 But I have evidence that the library is important. Well ~~mutiple~~ [multiple] studies have shown that students that actually go to the library to study have seen a drastic increase in academic performance of 42%. Students need a quiet place to do studies and if they have a place to focus on studies then they will go from one of the worst performing ~~student~~ [students] to an academic weapon. Imagine the wide grin across a student feeling happy that all their work at the library paid off. Are you cruel enough to take that smile off the students?

#2 20 years back I remember that there was a study that came to our community and checked the literacy and the studies said that it was around 70% which is really low. The studies recommended to go to the library for those that still need to learn literacy. Everyone in the town agreed and they came back a week to see if we improved and the studies told us that the ~~communities~~ [community's] literacy is 94%. That is a drastic increase and the library helped that rate to go up because people that didn't have literacy skills went there every day. Dr Dre, one of the best professors in the world came to the library to see what books are there that give information to people. He read over 500 books and said that they were all accurate with data and that this library is one of the best libraries in the city. "Most libraries have information that was correct a few years or weren't even accurate but this library is perfect. All the facts are accurate and up to date." Dr Dre recited.

#3 This community was established in the Victorian era. Knights would come to the library to get some books to study the strategies that their enemies used ~~win~~ [to win] battles. Well when they read those books they ~~learn~~ [learned] the strategies of their opponents ~~the~~ [they] started winning battles and were the strongest army of all armies of that time. The library has some of the most important books that were written to help the community in case something happens that destroys it. One of the ~~manuscripts~~ [manuscripts] have the ~~cities~~ [city's] laws and it's the only law book that was ~~every~~ [ever] written for this city. This can drastically increase crimes as police will forget law and lawyers will not remember if what their customer did is illegal.

Please take these things into account and come to talk to the community and we will discuss what to do with the library.

Yours ~~Sincerely~~ [Sincerely],

Community of Rouse Hill