

Writing Feedback

TERM 1 2025 | 15th April | DAY 2 | HOLIDAY WRITING

Section 1:

#1 (First paragraph) Strengths: Your passionate tone effectively conveys urgency. Your metaphor of "signing the death warrant of intelligence" creates a powerful image. Weakness: Overreliance on emotional appeals → You've relied heavily on emotional language without balancing it with factual support. Phrases like "abhorrent idea" and "measly shopping center" express strong feelings but lack substantiating evidence to persuade a council, who would likely respond better to rational arguments alongside emotional appeals. Exemplar: ***The proposed replacement of our community library with a shopping centre would deprive over 5,000 monthly visitors of an essential educational resource that has served our community for 35 years.***

#2 (Second paragraph) Strengths: You've attempted to include expert testimony with Professor Shwabudy. Your comparative analysis between libraries and shopping centres shows analytical thinking. Weakness: Underdeveloped evidence → The evidence presented lacks specificity and verifiable sources. The quotation attributed to "professor Shwabudy" appears without clear credentials or publication information, and the figure "\$2.1 million" doesn't specify timeframe or context (annual revenue? savings?). The subsequent claim about shopping centres failing after "5-6 years" similarly lacks contextual data for your specific community. Exemplar: ***According to a 2024 study published in the British Journal of Community Development, local libraries generate an average return of £7 for every £1 invested through educational outcomes, social welfare improvements, and increased property values in surrounding areas.***

#3 (Third paragraph) Strengths: You've clearly articulated potential consequences. Your repeated structure ("If you destroy our library...") creates a memorable rhythm. Weakness: Logical fallacies → Your argument presents several logical problems, particularly in the syllogism "You are nothing without the people. Yet the people are nothing without the library. So you are nothing without the library." This oversimplification undermines your credibility and could alienate council members. Additionally, statements like "you will regret it" could be perceived as threatening rather than persuasive. Exemplar: ***The council's legitimacy rests on public trust, and surveys indicate that 78% of local residents strongly oppose replacing community cultural spaces with commercial developments, suggesting that proceeding with this plan could significantly impact public confidence in future council initiatives.***

■ Your letter shows commendable passion for preserving the library, which is its greatest strength. However, you could make your argument more compelling by incorporating specific details about your library's impact on the community. For instance, mention how many people use it daily, what programmes it offers, or historical significance it holds. Also, your counterargument section needs strengthening with more precise data about shopping centres versus libraries. You might include concrete examples of similar communities where libraries were preserved with positive outcomes. Additionally, try to maintain a respectful tone throughout – council members will be more receptive to reasoned arguments than perceived threats. Structuring your letter with clear sections (introduction, evidence, counterargument, conclusion) would also help readers follow your argument more easily.

Overall Score: 41/50

Section 2:

Dear ~~Council~~ [The Council] Cyralia Road Sydney NSW 456 Kent St Sydney NSW
14/4/2025

It has come to ~~the attention of myself~~ [my attention] that the council is planning to demolish the community library to make way for a measly shopping center. In everyone's opinion, this is an abhorrent idea, destroying a sanctuary of peace and learning to replace it with a loud realm of greenhouse gasses and CFCs. You may as well be signing the death warrant of intelligence. Anyone can see how much the public adores the library, and how it is the reason behind our intelligent community. Surely you can see that. If you destroyed the library, you would be destroying the bond between our community and everything we love. You would destroy who we are! #1

First of all, I must say that we are in utter shock and disarray at why you want to destroy such a beautiful place. It is an ethereal place of knowledge and power. Its books invite you with ~~its~~ [their] quiet finger of curiosity, forcing you to open the pages to an entirely new world. No one would ever dream of destroying this landmark in history. Think of it as if you were to destroy your favourite photos of your dead ~~grandma~~ [grandmother]. That is how we feel about you destroying our majestic library of knowledge and secrets. An argument on your side might be that it is old and the wood is rotting, and that your

shopping center will have better income. While that is true, it will only be so for a short period. For as research presented by ~~professor~~ [Professor] Shwabudy says, "libraries are the main source of income for any community, approximately \$2.1 million" said he, "whilst also providing a safe haven for learning". Another piece presented was that "many a shopping center have shut down due ~~lack~~ [to lack] of income after 5-6 years. As many people have reported, "it seemed to lose its authenticity after a while." Thus forcing it to shut down. #2

~~Ensuingly~~ [Consequently], destroying the library would destroy any trust the community has in you, meaning that your life would be 10 times harder. Even without the added grief of destroying a magnificent placeholder in our history such as this. ~~You as an entity are nothing without the people. Yet the people are nothing without the library. So you are nothing without the library.~~ [The council's authority derives from public support, which will be severely compromised if the library—a cornerstone of community identity—is removed.] If you destroy our library, we won't listen. If you destroy our library nothing will go ahead. If you destroy our library, you will regret it. It would just be ignorant, selfish and conceited. No one will ever listen to you again, not even your ministers. #3

So please, please don't knock down this marvellous ~~bibliotheca~~ [library]. I understand your point of view but make sure that you always think clearly without being clouded with money fantasies, then, and only then, will you be happy, and the people will be happy. The people are you and the library is the people. Save the library, save yourself, destroy the library, destroy yourself. Bear all that in mind for a few weeks and ~~Let's~~ [let's] see what happens.

Yours sincerely,

Lincoln