

Writing Feedback

DAY 8 | 22nd of April | HOLIDAY WRITING HOMEWORK

Section 1:

#1: Opening paragraph Strengths:

- Your piece begins with a compelling contrast between past and present, creating a sense of urgency.
- The questions effectively engage the reader and establish the central issue.

Weakness: Insufficient context → The opening lacks specific details about when and how this environmental change occurred. Your writing mentions "sparse greenery" but doesn't paint a vivid enough picture of the current state to truly capture the reader's attention. Including more sensory details would strengthen the emotional impact.

Exemplar: *Walking across our school grounds today, one feels the harsh glare of sunlight where majestic oaks once stood, their absence marked by scattered stumps and barren concrete that radiates heat long after the afternoon bell.*

#2: Source integration paragraph Strengths:

- You've included multiple expert voices as required by the assignment.
- The quotes effectively highlight different aspects of the environmental issue.

Weakness: Underdeveloped connection → The expert opinions appear somewhat disconnected without exploration of how these challenges interrelate. Your writing introduces both tree loss and waste management but doesn't clearly establish how they connect as part of a unified environmental concern. The paragraph would benefit from a clearer explanation of this relationship.

Exemplar: *Ms. Lee and Mr. Ahmed's observations reveal how our twin challenges—diminishing green spaces and ineffective waste management—create a destructive cycle where each problem worsens the other, as waste accumulation prevents new plantings while fewer trees mean more carbon remains in our atmosphere.*

#3: Statistics paragraph Strengths:

- You include specific numbers that quantify the problem.
- The rhetorical question effectively prompts reflection.

Weakness: Limited analysis → The statistics are presented without sufficient interpretation of their implications. Your writing provides the raw numbers but doesn't fully explore what they mean for the school community. Explaining the consequences of these statistics would make your argument more compelling.

Exemplar: *These statistics reveal not just numerical decline but real consequences—with each lost tree and unrecycled bag, we experience hotter classrooms, increased energy costs for cooling, and missed opportunities to teach environmental stewardship through example.*

Your piece shows promise in addressing an important environmental issue affecting your school. The structure follows the basic requirements with expert voices and statistics, but needs substantial development to reach its full potential. The article currently feels incomplete, ending abruptly without a proper conclusion that inspires action. Additionally, while you've begun to incorporate storytelling in the opening, more vivid imagery throughout would help readers connect emotionally with the issue.

Also, the transitions between paragraphs need strengthening to create a more cohesive narrative flow. Your writing would benefit from expanding on how the waste management and greenery issues interconnect, rather than treating them as separate problems. The headline is attention-grabbing, but the article needs to more fully deliver on its promise by providing a complete exploration of solutions and concrete ways for students to get involved.

You might consider reorganizing your article to follow a problem-cause-solution structure, with more emphasis on the specific actions your school community can take. Adding more descriptive elements and personal stories would make the environmental challenges feel more immediate and relevant to readers.

Overall score: 37/50

Section 2:

From Trash to Trees: Reviving Our School's Green Legacy

#1 Our school once boasted a lush, green environment—trees providing sheltering canopies, students enjoying shaded spots to relax and play. Today, however, the grounds tell a different story. The sparse greenery struggles against the increasing urban heat, and the absence of shade leaves the playground sweltering. How did we let it come to this, and more importantly, how can we fix it?

#2 This concern goes far beyond aesthetics; it's a matter of health, comfort, and environmental responsibility. As Ms. Lee, a dedicated science teacher, points out, "Planting more trees will not only reduce temperatures but actively improve air quality, creating a healthier space for students." At the same time, Mr. Ahmed, a long-serving member of the maintenance team, observes, "The sheer volume of waste we generate has escalated over the years. Without an improved recycling system, the problem will only worsen." ~~Together, their words highlight the dual challenges we face: reclaiming our greenery and managing our waste.~~ [Their observations highlight the dual challenges we face: reclaiming our greenery and managing our waste.]

#3 The scale of the issue becomes undeniable when we look at the numbers. Every year, our school generates enough waste to fill 500 bags, yet only 100 of those are recycled. Meanwhile, green spaces have been reduced by 40% over the past decade, contributing to rising temperatures and diminishing our campus's ecological balance. How can we, as a community, allow such avoidable problems to persist?

Yet, all is not lost. While efforts like recycling programs have begun to take root, they are just the beginning. We cannot rely solely on one solution. The lack of vegetation, for example, demands immediate action to reverse the growing "urban heat island" effect. Implementing tree-planting drives and expanding greenery would provide shade, reduce temperatures, and revitalise the campus atmosphere. Isn't this vision of a cooler, greener school worth striving for?

Looking ahead, the opportunities for transformation are within our reach. By investing in sustainable practices—such as enhanced recycling systems, water-saving