

Writing Feedback

TERM 1 2025 | DAY 1 WRITING | 14th April

Section 1:

Part #1 (Paragraph 1)

Strengths:

- Strong opening that clearly establishes your position and personal connection to the library
- Effective use of emotive language ("beloved," "spiritless," "compassionate haven")

Weakness: Limited rhetorical techniques → While you've included passionate language, your first paragraph could be strengthened with more varied rhetorical devices. The rhetorical question is effective, but you could enhance persuasiveness by incorporating more techniques such as anaphora or parallelism to emphasize key points.

Exemplar: *"Our library isn't just a mere building – it is the beating heart of our community, it is the foundation of our education, it is the sanctuary where dreams and knowledge coexist."*

Part #2 (Paragraph 2)

Strengths:

- Vivid painful imagery that creates a powerful emotional response
- Effective personification of machinery as destructive forces

Weakness: Overreliance on metaphors → Your imagery effectively portrays the destruction but becomes slightly repetitive with multiple machine metaphors. The paragraph could be more impactful by varying the imagery and including the human impact alongside the physical destruction.

Exemplar: *"Imagine not just the physical destruction, but the faces of children turned away from locked doors, the elderly who have lost their daily sanctuary, the students searching desperately for resources now beyond their reach."*

Part #3 (Paragraph 4)

Strengths:

- Good contrast between the library and commercial alternative
- Sensory details that appeal to multiple senses (smell, sound)

Weakness: Inconsistent formal tone → The use of phrases like "vanilla-tinged paper" and "stuffing your head in a book" introduces a more casual tone that contrasts with the formal nature required in a letter to a councillor. The sensory details are excellent but need more refined expression.

Exemplar: *"Instead of a sanctuary where one can immerse oneself in literature amidst the distinctive aroma of aged paper and the gentle symphony of turning pages, our children will face the cacophony of commercial spaces and the hollow distraction of retail environments."*

■ Your persuasive letter demonstrates a strong emotional appeal and addresses the prompt requirements effectively. Your use of painful imagery in the second paragraph is particularly powerful, creating a visceral reaction in the reader. You've also included effective physical descriptions of the library architecture. To improve your piece, consider maintaining a consistently formal tone throughout, especially when describing sensory experiences. Additionally, you could strengthen your argument by incorporating more varied rhetorical techniques such as anaphora, alliteration, or tricolon for emphasis at key points. Also, while you've included rhetorical questions, they could be more strategically placed to guide the reader toward your desired conclusion. Your closing appeal would benefit from a stronger call to action that specifies what you want the councillor to do beyond simply reconsidering.

Overall Score: 41/50

Section 2:

Dear Councillor Jacob,

It has come to my attention that the council has proposed the demolition of our beloved community library in replacement with a spiritless, lacklustre commercial ~~mess~~ [development]. As a student whose life has been built around these eloquent and accessible books, I find a need to express my passionate disapproval. Our library isn't just a mere building – it is a compassionate haven where people of all ages can learn and grow. Would it be justified to value money over the education of our students and community? To ruin our sacred library space is to ruin the hearts of this community as a whole. I plead ~~you~~ [with you] to take some time to re-evaluate this heartbreaking decision – one that threatens to erase the memories that have formed within this building. #1

Imagine bulldozers and cranes ravaging through the debris of our library mercilessly, reducing it to just a ~~meagre~~ [mere] memory. Picture the monstrous machines, their steel limbs tearing through the books, shattering the glass, and crushing the stone, swallowing this beacon of knowledge whole. Each roar of their engines would drown out the laughter of our community. This is not just a demolition, it's an erasure of our community. #2

Our library is an extravagant building, delicately and intricately crafted with the finest details. Many architects, engineers, and constructors worked for years to bring this structural masterpiece to life – building the large arches, placing down each brick, and creating glowing artworks using stained glass. To replace this place of grandeur with an uninspiring structure made of metal beams and concrete would be to erase their hard work. It would be a waste of beauty, effort, and creativity in favour of ~~commerical~~ [commercial] monotony.

I ask you to reconsider this decision. Imagine our future where, instead of spending time with vanilla-tinged paper filled to the brim with stories and the imagination of others, children try out the latest perfumes at the shops. A world where, instead of listening to the calming sounds of paper turning, the ~~continuous~~ [continuous] beeps of the librarian's scanner, and the soft scratches of pencil on paper, kids get overstimulated by ~~other's~~ [others'] chatting and music blasting in their ears. This is what replacing our library with a mall will do. Students will never get to ~~expierence~~ [experience] the joy of stuffing your head in a book, reading to your heart's desire. Our community deserves more than just a ~~commerical~~ [commercial] building.

Future generations will look back at your decision. Although I am just a student, I beseech you to make the right decision. #3

Yours sincerely,

Hillary