

### Section 1:

#### #1 (Introduction - Paragraphs 1-5)

Strengths: Your vivid sensory descriptions create an immersive experience that immediately grabs attention. Your use of second-person perspective effectively places the reader within this dystopian scenario.

Weakness: Emotional balance → While your opening effectively creates a sense of urgency and fear, it risks overwhelming your audience before establishing common ground. The intensity might cause listeners to emotionally disconnect rather than engage. For instance, phrases like "poisonous air" and "cracked, parched earth" create striking imagery but could benefit from balancing this with a note of hope earlier.

Exemplar: *"Imagine waking not to the sweet chirps of birds, but to desperate gasps—your lungs straining against thickening air. Yet this future, though approaching, can still be rewritten through our collective choices today."*

#### #2 (Middle section - Paragraphs 16-19)

Strengths: Your Australia-specific example about bushfires provides concrete evidence that makes the global issue personally relevant. The powerful imagery of wildlife fleeing creates a strong emotional impact.

Weakness: Statistical context → Your powerful example about the 2019-2020 bushfires would benefit from more specific framing within the climate change narrative. The phrase "three billion animals were incinerated" stands alone without connecting to the broader pattern or explaining how this differs from historical norms. This makes it difficult for listeners to grasp the escalating nature of the climate crisis.

Exemplar: *"We witnessed this reality in 2019-2020, when bushfires of unprecedented scale and intensity—directly linked to our warming climate—killed or displaced three billion animals, a catastrophe that represents a 30% increase in severity compared to fires from just a decade ago."*

#### #3 (Conclusion - Final 4 paragraphs)

Strengths: Your use of parallel structure in questions creates a rhythmic, memorable ending. The metaphor of writing a better future effectively ties back to your overall message of agency.

Weakness: Action specificity → Your conclusion inspires but lacks specific, immediate actions your school audience can take. Phrases like "sparked change" and "write a better one" are motivational but remain abstract. Without concrete next steps, your listeners may feel motivated but unsure how to channel that energy productively.

Exemplar: *"Let history remember us not as the ones who watched it all burn, but as the ones who joined our school's new Climate Action Committee, reduced our carbon footprints through measurable weekly goals, and demanded climate policies from our local representatives."*

■ Your speech demonstrates exceptional emotional power and vivid imagery that will certainly capture your audience's attention. However, to increase its persuasive impact, consider strengthening the structure of your AIDA format by developing a clearer "Desire" section that bridges between the problems you've identified and the actions you're suggesting. Additionally, while you've included several rhetorical devices, explicitly labelling them would help fulfill the assignment requirements. You might also consider reducing some of the repetitive imagery about destruction to make room for more concrete, achievable solutions that your school audience can implement immediately. Also, try balancing the emotional tone by introducing hope earlier in the speech rather than waiting until the later sections. This will prevent listener fatigue and help maintain engagement throughout your three minutes.

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**Overall Score: 45/50**

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## **Section 2:**

Close your eyes for a moment. Imagine waking not to the sweet chirps of birds, but to desperate gasps—as your lungs strain against the thick, poisonous air. Envision yourself walking not on soft grass, but on cracked, parched earth that splinters beneath your feet like fragile glass. Picture yourself reaching for water—a single droplet, so ethereal and

precious, just within sight but out of reach. Food, rationed like medicine—tightly controlled, barely enough to survive.

**#1** This isn't a nightmare. This isn't a dystopian film. This, my fellow peers and esteemed teachers, is the future we're creating with every carbon-emitting choice we make today.

Climate change might seem like just a background issue—something normal, something distant. But in a few years, it may be the one thing we regret not acting on when we still had the chance.

Our planet—our shared home—stands on the edge of humanity's cliff. A cliff of catastrophe. A cataclysmic abyss from which there will be no return.

Today, I speak to you not just as a classmate, but as a voice for the voiceless— The generation yet to be born, who deserve a world that is not crumbling, but thriving. A world that is not poisoned, but protected. A sustainable sanctuary.

The question is: Will we give it to them?

Consider, for a moment, the world that awaits us.

Scientists from the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change predict that without immediate action, our oceans—once teeming with vibrant coral gardens and graceful marine choreography—will become acidic wastelands where calcium-dependent creatures dissolve in slow, excruciating deaths. Those same waters, which cradled life from its first cellular stirrings, will rise by up to one meter by 2100—drowning coastal cities beneath merciless waves, erasing centuries of human achievement and displacing hundreds of millions of climate refugees.

Is this the inheritance we wish to leave? Is this the legacy we choose to create? Is this the future we dare call progress?

**#2** Here in Australia, our beloved bushlands—once alive with the rustle of eucalyptus leaves and the laugh of kookaburras—are transformed each summer into hellscape. Flames leap from crown to crown with terrifying velocity. The very air shimmers with heat so intense, it creates its own weather systems. Wildlife, trapped and panicked, flee until exhaustion claims them—or fire consumes them—leaving behind the acrid stench of charred fur and the deafening silence of extinction.

We saw this reality in 2019–2020, when three billion animals were incinerated or died from starvation after their habitats were reduced to smouldering ash. Each cinder that rose from those fires carried skyward the ashes of our indifference. Each plume of smoke—a dark monument to our collective failure.

But it doesn't have to end this way.

We are not powerless witnesses to an inevitable fate—we are the architects of the future. The same hands that have damaged this earth can now begin to heal it. The same minds that engineered convenience at the cost of nature can now innovate toward sustainability. And the same voices that once remained silent... can now rise in unified defiance.

Change doesn't begin with global summits or billion-dollar policies. It begins here—in classrooms, in conversations, in choices.

Every reusable bag. Every plant-based meal. Every push for renewable energy. Every time we choose to learn, to speak up, to act—we push the planet one step further from the edge.

You don't have to be a scientist to care. You don't have to be a world leader to lead. You just have to be brave enough to believe that this world—our only world—is worth fighting for.

**#3** So I ask you once more:

Will we leave behind a legacy of apathy? Or rise to become the generation that turned things around?

Let history remember us not as the ones who watched it all burn— —but as the ones who stood up, spoke out, and sparked change. Let us pose as testaments in the history books. Let us be resilient role models for the generations, yet to come.

Because the future is not written yet. And together—we can definitely write a better one.