

Writing Feedback

DAY 9 | 24th of April | HOLIDAY WRITING HOMEWORK

Section 1:

#1 Letter to Principal (Paragraph 3) Strengths: Your proposal is well-structured and offers clear, specific solutions rather than just highlighting problems. You've effectively balanced formality with actionable suggestions. Weakness: Limited evidence → You mention statistics in paragraph 2 but don't provide specific evidence for how your proposed solutions have worked elsewhere or their potential impact at your school. Exemplar: *I propose implementing a ban on single-use plastics and encouraging reusable alternatives, which has reduced waste by 40% in neighbouring Greenfield High School. Our school could introduce lunch containers, metal cutlery, and biodegradable packaging in the canteen, potentially eliminating over 1,000 plastic items daily.*

#2 Speech (Opening paragraph) Strengths: Your opening effectively uses a rhetorical question and creates immediate relevance by quantifying the impact. The conversational tone is perfectly suited to a school assembly audience. Weakness: Lack of specificity → While the opening engages emotionally, it doesn't establish the specific focus or purpose of your speech early enough. Exemplar: *Hey everyone, Have you ever thrown away a plastic spoon at lunch and thought, "It's just one"? Well, with 500 students thinking the same, that's 500 plastic spoons in our bins every lunch break—over 95,000 pieces of plastic waste from our school alone each year. Today, I'm asking us all to join our school's Plastic-Free Initiative.*

#3 Article (Paragraph 3) Strengths: You've provided concrete solutions that involve different stakeholders, making it inclusive and action-oriented. The suggestions are practical and achievable. Weakness: Insufficient detail → The solutions mentioned are valid but would benefit from more specific examples or elaboration on implementation. Exemplar: *By encouraging reusable containers with a "Green Lunch" reward system, introducing biodegradable packaging made from cornstarch in the canteen, and launching monthly student-led clean-up days in our local parks, we can cut down on waste and build lasting awareness throughout our community.*

■ Your persuasive pieces demonstrate a solid understanding of different formats and audiences. However, your writing would benefit from more compelling evidence and specific examples to strengthen your arguments. You've adapted your tone nicely across

formats, but the depth of content could be enhanced by including more concrete statistics or real-world examples that resonate with each specific audience. Additionally, your call to action in each piece could be more explicit about what exactly you want the reader to do next. Also, consider adding more emotional appeal in the letter to the principal and more factual support in your speech to create more balanced persuasive techniques. Your article would be more powerful if you included a short anecdote or scenario that illustrates the plastic problem in a relatable way. Try to quantify the potential impact of the changes you're suggesting to make your arguments more compelling.

Overall Score: 46/50

Section 2:

1. Letter

Audience: School Principal Persuasive Techniques: Formal tone, statistics, call to action, appeal to responsibility Adaptation: Structured format with respectful tone and specific suggestions

Dear Principal Thompson, I hope this letter finds you well. I am writing to express my concern about the use of single-use plastics within our school, particularly in the canteen and at school events. As a concerned student, I believe we can lead by example in promoting sustainable practices.

Studies show that Australians use over 3.5 million tonnes of plastic each year, with a significant amount coming from disposable cutlery, plates, and packaging. Much of this ends up in landfill or polluting our environment.

#1 I propose that our school implement a ban on single-use plastics and encourage reusable alternatives, such as lunch containers, metal cutlery, and biodegradable packaging in the canteen. We could also launch an awareness campaign to educate students on the environmental impact of plastics.

By taking this step, our school will show leadership and care for our environment. I hope you will consider my suggestions and work with the student council to make this a reality.

Sincerely,

Emily Chen

2. Speech

Audience: Fellow students at school assembly Persuasive Techniques: Emotive language, rhetorical questions, repetition, inclusive language Adaptation: Conversational tone, direct engagement with audience

#2 Hey everyone, Have you ever thrown away a plastic spoon at lunch and thought, "It's just one"? Well, what if 500 students thought the same? That's 500 plastic spoons in just one lunch break.

We all love our planet, but our habits are hurting it. Every single-use plastic we throw away takes hundreds of years to break down. It ends up in oceans, harming turtles, dolphins, and birds.

But here's the thing: we can change that. We can choose reusable containers. We can say no to plastic straws. We can ask the canteen for better packaging options.

Let's be the generation that chooses action over convenience. Together, we can make our school cleaner, greener, and prouder.

3. Email

Audience: School Canteen Manager Persuasive Techniques: Friendly tone, direct suggestions, polite language, logical reasoning Adaptation: Concise and clear with actionable points

Subject: Suggestion to Reduce Single-Use Plastics in the Canteen

Hi Ms. Davies,

I hope you're doing well. I wanted to share a suggestion about the use of single-use plastics in our school canteen. Many students have noticed the amount of plastic cutlery and containers being used daily.

Would it be possible to trial biodegradable packaging or encourage students to bring their own containers? Even small changes—like switching to wooden cutlery—could make a big difference over time.

I really appreciate how hard you work to keep the canteen running smoothly, and I think this change would show how much we care about sustainability too.

Kind regards, Emily Chen

4. Article

Audience: Local school newsletter readers (students, parents, teachers) Persuasive Techniques: Facts, examples, inclusive language, solution-focused Adaptation: Informative and engaging style with broader community appeal

Title: It's Time to Cut Out Plastics—One School at a Time

Plastic is everywhere—from the fork you use at lunch to the wrapping around your sandwich. But is it really necessary?

Every year, millions of tonnes of plastic are thrown away in Australia, and schools are no exception. That's why students at our school are calling for change.

#3 By encouraging reusable containers, introducing biodegradable packaging in the canteen, and launching student-led clean-up days, we can cut down on waste and build awareness.

Parents can get involved too by packing plastic-free lunches. Teachers can support by reducing plastic in classrooms. Everyone has a role to play.

It's time we became part of the solution—starting with our school.