

Writing Feedback

TERM 1 2025 | 17th April | DAY 4 | HOLIDAY WRITING

Section 1:

#1: First paragraph Strengths: Your strong opening with the vivid description of a dystopian world creates immediate impact. Your transition from imagination to reality with "there's no need to imagine" effectively emphasises urgency. Weakness: Imprecise statistics → The claim that "50% of world destruction is already far through" lacks specificity and context, making it difficult for listeners to grasp the concrete reality of climate change impacts. Instead of using vague percentages, providing specific, verifiable examples of environmental damage would strengthen your argument and build credibility. Exemplar: *"Our planet has already witnessed unprecedented changes: global temperatures have risen by 1.1°C since pre-industrial times, with 20 of the warmest years on record occurring in the past 22 years."*

#2: Third paragraph Strengths: Your use of rhetorical questions effectively engages listeners and forces them to contemplate the consequences of inaction. The contrasting imagery between destruction and potential restoration creates a compelling dynamic. Weakness: Overreliance on scientific authority → While mentioning scientists adds credibility, the repetitive structure "Scientists say..." without specific evidence or examples creates distance rather than connection. The paragraph relies too heavily on unnamed experts rather than developing your own argument with supporting evidence. Exemplar: *"The latest IPCC report confirms that limiting global warming to 1.5°C requires 'rapid, far-reaching and unprecedented changes in all aspects of society'—changes that begin with each of us recognising our personal responsibility."*

#3: Sixth paragraph Strengths: Your call to action is clear and provides concrete steps listeners can take. The inclusive language creates a sense of shared responsibility and community effort. Weakness: Limited perspective → Your call to action focuses primarily on individual and political actions but overlooks other important dimensions of climate action such as educational initiatives, technological innovation, and community-based approaches. This limits the audience's understanding of how they might contribute beyond the examples provided. Exemplar: *"Whether you're a teacher who can educate the next generation, an engineer who can design sustainable solutions, or simply someone passionate about community gardening—your unique skills and position offer specific ways to contribute to our collective effort."*

■ Your speech demonstrates passion and emotional appeal, which is essential for motivating an audience on climate change. However, the piece would benefit from more balanced development across your paragraphs. Your descriptive language is strongest at the beginning but fades in later sections. The personal anecdote about the stream provides a good emotional foundation, but could be expanded to create a stronger narrative thread throughout the speech. Additionally, while you've included rhetorical questions effectively, your speech relies heavily on emotional appeals rather than balancing these with logical reasoning and concrete evidence. Also, the opposing viewpoint section is not clearly defined in your speech—consider dedicating a specific paragraph to acknowledge and respond to common objections to climate action. Finally, your conclusion would benefit from a more memorable phrasing or image that listeners can carry with them, perhaps circling back to your opening or personal story for structural cohesion.

Overall Score: 44/50

Section 2:

Speech to stop Climate change

Imagine a world, riddled with dry lands, barren soil, and smoke thickening the sky. The heat, the oppressive and omnipresent heat. The consistent earthquakes, ~~volcanos~~ [volcanoes] and eruptions that would take over the land. Once beautiful destinations now destroyed by climate change. The world as we knew it, changed for the worse. Well, there's no need to imagine. It's already begun. 50% of world destruction is already far through. #1

I remember I had a favourite stream I used to play in. A cool, gushing stream that held the beauty of this world. It was my refuge. Now, that very stream is as brown as dirt, plastic and sheets are clung up the bank, that once beautiful stream turned into a garbage dump.

Scientists say we are finished. Scientists say there's enough evidence. Scientists say climate change—and its catastrophic aftermath—is coming for us. But we aren't changing. We have the opportunity to change it. Are we going to let the glaciers melt like wax dripping off a forgotten candle? Are we going to let our air become so polluted it

turns into a thick blanket smothering us? Or are we going to do something about it to restore our planet's wellbeing? #2

Consider it. Consider a planet with improved air quality where we can breathe fresh air into new, healthy lungs and forests blooming bright green and alive, filled with mystery and beauty. We can do it, but we have to do it now—with an invested passion for success. We need to rid ourselves of fossil fuels, turn to natural resources, and fight against corporations blinded by greed and politicians too soft to make billionaires pay for their mistakes. They will hear us; our success will inspire those who come after us. We are not helpless. We have the power of the human spirit, the compassion of sisterhood/brotherhood, the ability to fix it before it's too late. Like a river cuts through stone, human effort wins out in the end. The products of human effort are so powerful that over millennia, we understand now that when humans unite as one, change is inevitable. Let us be that change.

Today you have the power to change something: Reduce your individual carbon footprint, petition your government leaders and lawmakers to implement climate/microclimate legislation and policies, support ~~endeavours~~ [endeavours] and companies that strive for sustainability and make their deeds known, use your voice and resources to team with those who have.

There is no single battle against climate change—it's EVERYONE'S battle. But if we can change today, if we can all agree to commit to something—anything—today, then we can guarantee for future generations that they won't have to suffer or pay for our wrongs but instead thrive in a new world we've made for them, a world in which the winds don't bring memories of their trauma. #3

Don't wait for another storm. Don't wait for devastation. Do it for yourself. Do it for humankind. Do it for life.