

Section 1:

Part #1

"Silverwater Creek - The END of Clean Water?! 95% of water in the silverwater creek is polluted by plastics, dirt and mud. The once beautiful and eye-catching streams now radiate the faint scent of death carries from the waters."

Strengths:

- Your headline is attention-grabbing and creates immediate concern for the issue.
- You effectively establish the severity of the pollution problem with a specific statistic.

Weakness: Inconsistent tone and grammatical issues. → Your opening combines sensationalist elements with factual information, creating an uneven tone. The phrase "radiate the faint scent of death carries from the waters" contains grammatical errors that diminish the impact of your descriptive language.

Exemplar: *"Silverwater Creek - The Death of Sydney's Waters? Recent studies show 95% of Silverwater Creek is contaminated with plastics and sediment. The once crystal-clear streams now emit a faint, putrid odour, signalling their ecological demise."*

Part #2

"Lets follow Ben Dover, a traumatic 14 year old. He remembers a time when he used to play in the crystalline streams, swimming and splashing his father. Just a few days ago he came to the silverwater creek. Guess what he found his beloved stream in? Rubbish piling on the bank, the once intrepid water now brown as dirt. Soon, the streams show off its death at the hands of humans."

Strengths:

- You've attempted to humanise the issue through a personal story.
- Your contrast between past and present conditions creates emotional impact.

Weakness: Underdeveloped narrative and inappropriate language. → The personal story lacks depth and contains inappropriate elements (the name "Ben Dover" could be read as inappropriate wordplay). The description "traumatic 14 year old" is unclear and doesn't effectively communicate the character's relationship to the creek. The informal phrases like "Guess what he found" break the professional tone needed for a feature article.

Exemplar: *"Local teenager James Wilson, now 14, remembers splashing in Silverwater Creek's crystalline waters with his father just five years ago. 'Last week, I visited my childhood playground,' he recalls. 'The banks were littered with rubbish, and the once vibrant water had turned a murky brown. It felt like witnessing the death of something precious.'"*

Part #3

"Silverwater Creek does not have to remain a cautionary tale. Countries like Denmark and Canada have successfully rejuvenated polluted waterways through rigorous environmental policies, community-led restoration efforts, and corporate accountability. Sydney can follow suit if businesses, residents, and lawmakers collaborate to enforce stronger pollution controls and invest in sustainable infrastructure."

Strengths:

- You've provided international examples to demonstrate that restoration is possible.
- Your solution is comprehensive, addressing multiple stakeholders.

Weakness: Lack of specific examples and implementation details. → While you mention successful cases in Denmark and Canada, you don't provide specific examples of their approaches or how they might be adapted to Silverwater Creek's unique circumstances. The solutions offered remain general without concrete steps or local context that would make them more compelling and actionable.

Exemplar: *"Silverwater Creek need not remain a cautionary tale. Denmark's Århus River restoration project, which reduced industrial contamination by 80% through targeted regulations and business partnerships, offers a viable model. Similarly, Canada's Don River rehabilitation combined corporate funding with community volunteer programmes to restore native fish populations within five years. Sydney*

could adapt these approaches through specific measures: implementing graduated fines for industrial polluters, establishing monthly community clean-ups, and creating waterway buffer zones."

■ Your feature article presents a compelling issue with some effective elements, particularly in your opening headline and your inclusion of expert opinions. However, your piece would benefit from more consistent formatting and deeper development of its PEEL structure. The personal narrative section requires significant refinement to avoid inappropriate elements while still maintaining emotional impact. Additionally, your call to action could be strengthened by providing more specific, actionable steps for readers. Also, consider developing a more balanced presentation of differing perspectives throughout the article rather than concentrating them in a single section. The conclusion would benefit from a stronger emotional appeal that ties back to your opening hook. Your descriptive language shows potential but needs more precision and consistency throughout the piece.

Overall Score: 41/50

Section 2:

Silverwater Creek - The END of Clean Water?! 95% of water in the ~~silverwater~~ [Silverwater] creek is polluted by plastics, dirt and mud. The once beautiful and eye-catching streams now radiate the faint scent of death ~~carries~~ [carried] from the waters. Silverwater Creek, flowing through the western suburbs of Sydney, has suffered relentless pollution over the years. Industrial waste, urban runoff, and illegal dumping have transformed its waters into a murky, contaminated stream, unrecognizable from its former pristine state. According to a recent report by the New South Wales Environmental Protection Authority (EPA), the creek's pollution levels have reached critical thresholds, posing dangers to both aquatic life and nearby residents.

#1 ~~Lets~~ [Let's] follow Ben Dover, a ~~traumatic~~ [traumatised] 14 ~~year-old~~ [year-old]. He remembers a time when he used to play in the crystalline streams, swimming and splashing ~~his~~ [with his] father. Just a few days ago he came to ~~the silverwater~~ [Silverwater] creek. ~~Guess what he found his beloved stream in?~~ [What did he find in his

beloved stream?] Rubbish piling on the bank, the once ~~intrepid~~ [pristine] water now brown as dirt. ~~Soon, the streams show off its death at the hands of humans.~~ [The streams now display the deadly impact of human neglect.]

Dr. Mike Raphone, an environmental scientist at the University of Sydney, warns, "The presence of heavy metals and chemical pollutants in Silverwater Creek is not just an ecological disaster; it's a serious public health concern. If we don't intervene soon, we risk irreversible damage."

The pollution in Silverwater Creek is a consequence of unchecked industrial activity and improper waste management practices. Factories and warehouses in the surrounding areas discharge waste into the creek, violating environmental regulations. Additionally, stormwater runoff carries toxic residues from roads, pesticides from gardens, and microplastics into the water.

The implications of this pollution are devastating. Fish populations have dwindled, birds that once relied on the creek for sustenance have migrated elsewhere, and the natural filtration system of the waterway has collapsed. Residents living near the creek have reported an increase in respiratory issues, skin conditions, and other health concerns potentially linked to exposure to contaminated water and air.

Silverwater Creek's pollution crisis has ignited fierce public debate, with local activists demanding urgent intervention. Environmental groups, including Clean Water Sydney, have staged protests and petitioned government officials to enforce stricter regulations.

However, industry representatives argue that tighter restrictions could harm economic growth. Peter Langley, a spokesperson for a major manufacturing plant near the creek, stated, "While we recognize the importance of environmental conservation, sudden regulatory changes without viable alternatives could put hundreds of jobs at risk."

Despite these concerns, momentum is building for reform. The NSW government has pledged an additional \$10 million towards creek rehabilitation, including improved waste disposal monitoring and investment in ecological restoration.

#3 Silverwater Creek does not have to remain a cautionary tale. Countries like Denmark and Canada have successfully rejuvenated polluted waterways through rigorous environmental policies, community-led restoration efforts, and corporate accountability. Sydney can follow suit if businesses, residents, and lawmakers collaborate to enforce stronger pollution controls and invest in sustainable infrastructure.

As Dr. Watson aptly puts it, "Environmental responsibility isn't an option; it's a necessity. Silverwater Creek can be revived, but only if we act now."

Every resident has a role in saving Silverwater Creek. You can support local clean-up initiatives, advocate for stricter environmental laws, and push companies to adopt greener practices. By making informed choices, such as reducing plastic use and properly disposing of waste, each person can contribute to reversing the damage.

Silverwater Creek has witnessed decades of neglect, but hope is far from lost. The question now is—how will we choose to rewrite its future?