

Section 1:

#1 "Did you know that plastic takes hundreds of years to break down? People have to realise what they're doing to our world. Especially the world's oceans."

Strengths:

- Your opening question effectively captures the reader's attention
- You establish a serious tone that reflects the urgency of the issue

Weakness: Limited contextual foundation → Your introduction jumps quickly between facts without establishing a comprehensive background for readers. The statement about plastic taking hundreds of years to break down would benefit from additional context about why this matters. Phrases like "People have to realise" make claims without supporting evidence or explanation.

Exemplar: *Did you know that plastic takes hundreds of years to break down in our oceans? This means that every plastic bottle or bag we use today will remain in our marine environment, harming sea creatures and ecosystems, long after we're gone. Our oceans are suffering because of these choices.*

#2 "Trillions of tonnes of plastic are being dumped into our oceans each year! Plastic is also responsible for killing sea life! And it comes into our bodies!"

Strengths:

- Your writing shows genuine passion for ocean conservation
- You connect the issue to multiple impacts (environment and human health)

Weakness: Underdeveloped connections → Your claims about the quantities of plastic and its effects are presented as isolated exclamations rather than connected ideas. The phrase "And it comes into our bodies!" introduces an important concept but doesn't explain the relationship clearly. The exclamation marks throughout this section create urgency but replace detailed explanation.

Exemplar: *Millions of tonnes of plastic enter our oceans each year, creating a growing crisis for marine life. This plastic doesn't just harm sea creatures through entanglement and ingestion—it breaks down into tiny particles that enter the food chain and eventually make their way into our bodies when we eat seafood.*

#3 "Here's how. First, we put the plastic in the bin. Then garbage trucks dump it into our oceans. Over time, the plastic breaks down. Next fish feeding on small shrimp also swallow microscopic pieces of plastic called microplastics. Then we eat the fish. Then it comes into our bodies!"

Strengths:

- Your step-by-step explanation attempts to make a complex process understandable
- You introduce the important term "microplastics" to educate readers

Weakness: Oversimplified cause-effect relationship → Your explanation suggests all binned plastic goes directly into oceans through garbage trucks, which misrepresents typical waste management systems. The phrase "Then garbage trucks dump it into our oceans" presents an oversimplified view of how plastic pollution occurs. The repeated use of "Then" creates a list-like structure rather than showing the relationships between these steps.

Exemplar: *Here's how plastic pollution affects us: While properly disposed waste should go to landfills or recycling centres, plastic often escapes into waterways through littering, improper waste management, or during transportation. In the ocean, this plastic gradually breaks down into microscopic particles called microplastics. Marine animals mistake these tiny particles for food, and when we consume seafood, these same microplastics enter our bodies, where they can accumulate over time.*

■ Your piece shows genuine concern for ocean conservation, which is commendable. To strengthen your writing, focus on building a more complete picture of the plastic pollution problem. Try including specific examples of how plastic affects sea creatures or humans to help your readers connect emotionally with the issue. Your explanation of the plastic journey could be more accurate by mentioning different ways plastic enters oceans (storm drains, littering, industrial waste). Also, your conclusion offers only one solution—consider expanding this section with 2-3 more practical actions readers can take. The structure could be improved by creating clearer paragraphs that each focus on one main idea: the problem, the process, and the solutions. Remember to balance alarming facts with hopeful messages about how positive changes can make a difference. Adding a brief story about successful ocean cleanup efforts would leave readers feeling inspired rather than just worried.

Overall score: 37/50

Section 2:

Title: Save the Oceans

Did you know that plastic takes hundreds of years to break down? People have to ~~realise~~ [realise] what they're doing to our world. Especially the world's oceans. #1 Plastic gets into our oceans from illegal dumping and careless people that don't read signs. ~~Trillions of tonnes~~ [Millions of tonnes] of plastic are being dumped into our oceans each year! #2 Plastic is also responsible for killing sea life! And it comes into our bodies!

~~Here's how. First, we put the plastic in the bin. Then garbage trucks dump it into our oceans. Over time, the plastic breaks down. Next fish feeding on small shrimp also swallow microscopic pieces of plastic called microplastics. Then we eat the fish. Then it comes into our bodies!~~ [Here's how plastic pollution works: When plastic waste isn't properly managed, it can end up in our waterways and oceans. Over time, this plastic breaks down into tiny fragments. Marine animals, such as fish feeding on small shrimp, accidentally swallow these microscopic pieces of plastic called microplastics. When we eat seafood, these same microplastics enter our bodies.] #3 Plus, plastic is indigestible—that means our stomach acids can't break it down!

~~How do we fix it? Well, instead of using single use zip-lock bags, use reusable containers.~~ [How do we fix it? We can start by making simple changes in our daily lives. Instead of using single-use zip-lock bags, choose reusable containers. We can also reduce our plastic consumption by bringing our own shopping bags and avoiding products with excessive packaging.]