

Section 1:

#1 Strengths: Your opening questions effectively grab the reader's attention. Your passion for ocean conservation comes through clearly.

Weakness: Lack of specific evidence → Your statements about plastic pollution contain imprecise figures. When you write "Trillions of tonnes of plastic are being dumped into our oceans each year!", the claim needs supporting evidence to be convincing.

Exemplar: *According to recent studies, approximately 8 million tonnes of plastic enter our oceans annually, which is causing severe damage to marine ecosystems.*

#2 Strengths: You effectively explain how microplastics enter the human food chain. The step-by-step explanation helps readers understand the process.

Weakness: Factual oversimplification → Your explanation that "garbage trucks dump it into our oceans" simplifies a complex issue. Plastic pollution occurs through multiple pathways including improper waste management, litter, and industrial discharge.

Exemplar: *When we dispose of plastic improperly, it often travels through stormwater drains, rivers, and waste management systems before eventually reaching the ocean, where it breaks down into microplastics over many decades.*

#3 Strengths: Your solutions are practical and actionable. You effectively emphasise the urgency of the situation with your closing statement.

Weakness: Limited range of solutions → Your piece mentions only reusable containers as alternatives to plastic. Expanding on more diverse solutions would strengthen your argument and give readers more ways to take action.

Exemplar: *We can make a difference by using reusable containers, choosing products with minimal packaging, supporting plastic bag bans, and participating in beach clean-ups to protect our precious marine environments.*

■ Your piece shows tremendous passion for protecting our oceans, which is its greatest strength. To improve the substance of your writing, consider adding more specific facts about plastic pollution that your readers can visualise. For instance, instead of saying "trillions of tonnes," explain that plastic pollution is equivalent to dumping one garbage truck of plastic into the ocean every minute. Also, try to explain the journey of plastic waste more accurately—most plastic reaches the ocean through rivers, stormwater runoff, and wind rather than direct dumping. Additionally, your solutions section could benefit from more diverse and specific actions that your readers can take. Consider organising your

writing into clear paragraphs with topic sentences that guide the reader through your argument. You might also strengthen your piece by including a personal connection to explain why you care about this issue.

Overall score: 38/50

Section 2:

Title: Save the Oceans

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

Here's how. #2 First, we put the plastic in the bin. Then garbage trucks dump it into our oceans. Over time (by that I mean hundreds of years), 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! Plus, plastic is indigestible—that means our stomach acids can't break it down.

We make more plastic than we need! We use more plastic than we need! We throw away more plastic than we need! This is not meant to happen!

#3 We must fix what we did! Instead of using single use zip-lock bags, use reusable containers. Reuse plastic if possible. If we want our home that we live in clean, we need to make it clean! Earth is the only planet known to support life! We must keep our one and only planet clean and habitable!