

Section 1:

**#1 "Imagine walking into a canteen filled not with the scent of fresh food, but with the stench of plastic waste and the hum of energy-guzzling appliances. Is this the legacy we want to leave behind? Now, picture a canteen alive with the chatter of students, the scent of local produce, and the gleam of reusable trays — a place where nourishment and nature go hand in hand."**

Strengths:

- Your sensory details create a vivid contrast between negative and positive canteen environments
- Your use of rhetorical questions engages readers directly

Weakness: Underdeveloped imagery → Your opening contrast, while effective, could be strengthened with more specific details about your school's actual canteen. The imagery remains somewhat generalised rather than connecting to your specific school environment.

Exemplar: *"Imagine walking into our canteen filled not with the scent of Ms. Wilson's famous vegetable soup, but with the stench of plastic waste from the 300+ disposable containers we use daily and the constant hum of our ageing appliances."*

**#2 "Every year, over 8 million tons of plastic end up in our oceans, much of it from food packaging. How much of that starts right here in our own cafeteria? Replacing single-use plastics with compostable materials or stainless steel alternatives isn't just a dream — it's a logical step toward protecting our planet."**

Strengths:

- Your inclusion of a concrete statistic adds credibility to your argument
- Your transition from global problem to local solution is logically structured

Weakness: Limited solutions → Your suggested alternatives focus solely on replacing materials without exploring broader sustainable practices that could be implemented in the canteen.

Exemplar: *"Replacing our single-use plastics with compostable materials or stainless steel alternatives isn't just a dream—it's a logical first step, alongside introducing a food waste composting system and sourcing more ingredients from local farms within 50 kilometres of our school."*

**#3 "Let's not just serve meals — let's serve a message. The fork in the road lies before us, and the choice is clear. Will we eat today at the cost of tomorrow, or will we green our canteen and feed the future?"**

Strengths:

- Your call to action effectively uses the food/eating metaphor
- Your final rhetorical question leaves readers with a compelling thought

Weakness: Missing implementation steps → Your conclusion presents a powerful choice but doesn't offer practical steps for how students and staff might begin making these changes.

Exemplar: *"Let's not just serve meals—let's serve a message by starting a Green Canteen Committee next week. The fork in the road lies before us, and Year 6 students could lead weekly waste audits while younger years design posters promoting proper recycling."*

■ Your persuasive writing shows passion for environmental issues and effectively uses imagery to contrast problems with solutions. To strengthen your piece, consider adding specific examples from your own school canteen to make the issue more immediate for readers. You might mention exactly what single-use items your canteen currently uses and how many are discarded each day. Also, try including a short success story from another school that has already made these changes, as this would make your argument more convincing. Your conclusion could be stronger if you add a simple action plan with 2-3 specific steps students and teachers can take right away. Think about organising your ideas around who needs to make changes (students, canteen staff, school leaders) and what each group could do differently. Adding these concrete details will help readers see exactly how they can be part of the solution.

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**Score: 42/50**

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Section 2:

Imagine walking into a canteen filled not with the scent of fresh food, but with the stench of plastic waste and the hum of energy-guzzling appliances. Is this the legacy we want to leave behind? Now, picture a canteen alive with the chatter of students, the scent of local produce, and the gleam of reusable trays — a place where nourishment and nature go hand in hand. #1

Every year, over 8 million tons of plastic end up in our oceans, much of it from food packaging. How much of that starts right here in our own cafeteria? Replacing single-use plastics with compostable materials or stainless steel alternatives isn't just a dream — it's a logical step toward protecting our planet. #2

You may ask, "Does it really matter what one school does?" But think: when a single spark can light a fire, why not be that spark? Other schools across the country have already made the shift, led by environmentally-conscious staff and student bodies. Why are we falling behind?

This isn't just about waste — it's about what kind of future we believe in. A student eating lunch should feel pride, not guilt. The image of a sea turtle tangled in plastic isn't just tragic — it's personal. It could be the future our choices create.

A canteen can be a place of pollution or of progress. One chokes the planet, the other nourishes it. Which side do we stand on?

Let's not just serve meals — let's serve a message. The fork in the road lies before us, and the choice is clear.

Will we eat today at the cost of tomorrow, or will we green our canteen and feed the future? #3