

### Section 1:

#1 "Why should we let our entire garden shrivel to a wilted shadow of itself, when we could harness the nutrients of our leftovers to return our garden to a spotlight of beauty?"

**Strengths:** Your opening grabs attention with a vivid question that creates a clear picture. You've used good contrast between a dying garden and a beautiful one.

**Weakness:** Unclear connection → Your metaphor jumps too quickly from gardens to school composting without explaining how they connect. The reader might wonder what garden you're talking about since this is about school composting.

**Exemplar:** *Why should we let our school waste valuable food scraps when we could use them to create rich compost for our learning environment?*

#2 "The Australian Institute of Biology completed a recent study, stating that 87% of gardens which harnessed compost were healthier than those that did not, and that everyone should compost their food scraps."

**Strengths:** You've included specific numbers to support your argument. Using an Australian organisation makes it relevant to your audience.

**Weakness:** Missing context → You haven't explained what "healthier" means for gardens or why this study matters for your school specifically. The statistics feel disconnected from your main point about school composting programmes.

**Exemplar:** *The Australian Institute of Biology found that 87% of gardens using compost had better plant growth and stronger soil, showing how food waste can improve growing conditions at our school.*

#3 "Now you can use all that extra money to buy other essential school supplies for education like screens that don't turn off every 5 minutes."

**Strengths:** You've connected composting to practical school benefits. The specific example about screens shows you understand real school problems.

**Weakness:** Weak conclusion → Your ending feels rushed and doesn't bring your main ideas together. You've mentioned money savings but haven't clearly shown how much the school would actually save or made a strong final appeal.

**Exemplar:** *With the money saved from not buying compost, our school could invest in better equipment and create a programme that benefits both our environment and our education.*

■ Your piece shows good understanding of persuasive writing by using questions, statistics, and practical benefits. However, your arguments need stronger connections between ideas. You jump from garden metaphors to statistics to money savings without clearly linking them together. Your main point about starting a composting programme gets lost in the middle. Additionally, you could strengthen your argument by explaining how composting would actually work at school and addressing possible concerns the principal might have. Also, your writing would benefit from smoother transitions between paragraphs to help readers follow your thinking more easily. The closing needs more punch to convince the principal to take action.

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**Score: 39/50**

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## **Section 2:**

### **To principal [Principal]**

Why should we let our entire garden shrivel to a wilted shadow of itself, when we could harness the nutrients of our leftovers to return our garden to a spotlight of beauty? What makes a garden healthy? You might think of good fertiliser, enough water or enough sunlight, but the real answer is simple: compost. #1 The Australian Institute of Biology completed a recent study, stating that 87% of gardens which harnessed compost were healthier than those that did not, and that everyone should compost their food scraps. They also found that 89% of nutrients from the food waste are transferred into the plant. #2 Another reason why compost must be used is that it saves an extreme amount of money. Every time you buy a bag of compost from the store, money is going down the drain as if it was water coming down from the tap. Instead, schools like this one can just compost their food scraps. It is as easy as that. #3 Now you can use all that extra money to buy other essential school supplies for education like screens that don't turn off every 5 minutes. We must work together to create a composting programme at this great school.

From: a random parent of a student at this school]