

Section 1

#1: "I still remember the first time I twirled my fork through a plate of creamy pasta. The smell of garlic filled the air, the sauce shimmered like liquid gold, and the very first bite felt like a warm hug on a cold day."

Strengths:

- Your opening uses lovely sensory details (smell, sight, taste) that help readers imagine the scene
- The comparison "like a warm hug on a cold day" creates a cosy, relatable feeling

Vague emotional connection → Whilst your introduction creates a nice moment, it doesn't clearly explain why this memory matters to your speech's main point. The phrase "began my love story with pasta" tells us you like pasta, but doesn't show us what makes pasta special compared to other foods you might have enjoyed as a child. Consider connecting this memory more directly to the reasons you'll discuss later, such as how that meal brought your family together or taught you something important about food.

Exemplar: *That evening, surrounded by my laughing family as we shared stories over steaming bowls, I discovered that pasta wasn't just delicious—it was the reason we all gathered together, and that's a magic worth celebrating.*

#2: "Did you know that more than 350 types of pasta exist across the world? From spaghetti to penne, ravioli to fettuccine, pasta proves that variety is not just exciting but endless. That is a fact that even science agrees with, since carbohydrates give us energy to learn, play, and grow."

Strengths:

- You include an interesting fact about the 350 types of pasta that shows you've learnt about your topic
- The examples (spaghetti, penne, ravioli, fettuccine) help readers picture different pasta shapes

Disconnected ideas → Your paragraph jumps from talking about pasta variety to mentioning carbohydrates and energy without showing how these ideas link together. The sentence "That is a fact that even science agrees with, since carbohydrates give us energy" is confusing because science doesn't "agree with" the idea of variety—you've switched to a completely different point. These are two separate arguments (variety and nutrition) squeezed into one paragraph, which makes your reasoning hard to follow.

Exemplar: *With over 350 types of pasta worldwide—from delicate angel hair to hearty rigatoni—there's a perfect shape for every sauce and every occasion, ensuring that pasta never becomes boring on our plates.*

#3: "Do we not all crave something comforting, delicious, and made with love? Pasta is not only a dish, it is a dream. It is not only food, it is family. It is not only a meal, it is a memory."

Strengths:

- Your use of repetition ("not only... it is") creates a strong rhythm that emphasises your point
- The rhetorical question engages your audience by making them think about their own feelings

Unclear abstract statements → Whilst your phrases sound poetic, they don't give readers concrete understanding of what you mean. Saying "pasta is a dream" or "pasta is family" uses big, vague words without explaining the actual connection. What specific dream does pasta represent? How exactly does pasta become family? Your audience needs real examples or explanations to understand these comparisons, otherwise the statements feel empty despite sounding nice.

Exemplar: *Pasta represents the dream of a welcoming home where everyone has a seat at the table, ready to share both food and conversation, creating the kinds of memories that warm us for years to come.*

■ Your speech shows good understanding of persuasive techniques, and you've clearly thought about why pasta matters to you. The sensory details in your opening and your use of rhetorical devices demonstrate that you're developing as a writer. However, your piece would benefit from deeper thinking about your main arguments. Right now, several of your points sound nice but don't fully explain themselves—for example, why pasta brings people together better than other shared meals, or what specifically makes it more comforting than other warm foods.

Additionally, your paragraphs sometimes mix different ideas without clear connections. The section about pasta variety suddenly shifts to talking about carbohydrates, which confuses your message. Try to develop one main idea per paragraph with supporting details that all connect to that single point.

Also, consider adding more specific examples from your own life or from what you've observed. Instead of just saying pasta is "family," you could describe a particular family gathering where pasta played an important role. These concrete details will make your abstract ideas much clearer and more convincing to your readers. Your conclusion is quite short and would benefit from summarising your strongest points before that final statement about feeding the soul.

Overall Score: 39/50

Section 2

Speech: "The Perfection of Pasta"

Good morning, everyone,

#1 I still remember the first time I twirled my fork through a plate of creamy pasta. The smell of garlic filled the air, the sauce shimmered like liquid gold, and the very first bite felt like a warm hug on a cold day. That moment began my love story with pasta, a love that has never faded.

You, my friends, have all tasted many foods, but none can compare to pasta. It is comfort on a plate, a symbol of family, and a celebration of ~~flavour~~ [flavour]. We all know that satisfying feeling of sharing pasta with the people we care about most.

#2 Did you know that more than 350 types of pasta exist across the world? From spaghetti to penne, ravioli to fettuccine, pasta proves that variety is not just exciting but endless. ~~That is a fact that even science agrees with, since carbohydrates give us energy to learn, play, and grow.~~ [Beyond this incredible variety, pasta also provides the carbohydrates that fuel our bodies, giving us energy to learn, play, and grow.]

Some foods are fancy but flavourless; pasta is simple yet spectacular. Some are quick to eat but easy to forget; pasta lingers in our hearts long after the meal ends. That is antithesis, the contrast that proves pasta's greatness.

#3 Do we not all crave something comforting, delicious, and made with love? Pasta is not only a dish, it is a dream. It is not only food, it is family. It is not only a meal, it is a memory.

We can all agree on one thing. No matter the shape, the sauce, or the style, pasta always brings people together. ~~Others feed the body, but pasta feeds the soul.~~ [Other foods may feed the body, but pasta feeds the soul.]