

Section 1

#1: "Like a death swimming in water, our rivers are dying—as well as the marine life."

Strengths:

- Your metaphor attempts to create a strong image about the seriousness of river pollution
- You've made a clear connection between the river's condition and its impact on wildlife

Unclear Comparison → The phrase "like a death swimming in water" is confusing because it's difficult to picture what this means. Metaphors work best when they compare two things that readers can easily connect. When you write "like a death swimming in water," readers might struggle to understand what image you're trying to create. A clearer comparison would help your message come across more powerfully.

Exemplar: *"Like a patient gasping for air, our rivers are dying—choking on pollution that kills the marine life within them."*

#2: "Would you drink from a glass filled with oil and plastic? That is what we are offering nature."

Strengths:

- You've used a rhetorical question that makes readers think about their own actions
- The comparison between drinking polluted water and what we do to nature is relatable

Incomplete Connection → While your question makes readers think, the follow-up sentence doesn't fully explain how "we" are offering this to nature. You haven't specified who is polluting or how the pollution happens. Your writing would be stronger if you explained the actions people take that lead to this pollution, such as littering near rivers or dumping waste incorrectly.

Exemplar: *"Would you drink from a glass filled with oil and plastic? That is what we are offering nature when we toss rubbish near riverbanks or allow factories to dump waste into the water."*

#3: "We could spread the word using posters, social media, and school newsletters. Raising awareness is like planting seeds—once people understand the problem, they will want to help fix it."

Strengths:

- You've provided specific, practical methods for spreading awareness
- The seed metaphor effectively shows how awareness can grow over time

Missing Details → Your paragraph mentions ways to spread the word but doesn't explain what message should be on the posters or what information should go in the newsletters. Without these details, readers can't picture how the awareness campaign would actually work. You could strengthen this section by giving an example of what the posters might say or what facts the newsletters should include about river pollution.

Exemplar: *"We could spread the word using posters showing before-and-after photos of clean rivers, social media posts sharing pollution statistics, and school newsletters explaining how litter travels from streets into waterways."*

■ Your piece tackles an important environmental issue and shows genuine concern for your local rivers. You've included several persuasive techniques, such as rhetorical questions and appeals to the reader's emotions, which help engage Mayor Bob. Your letter also demonstrates good organisation, moving from the problem to the solution and ending with a call to action. However, your writing would benefit from adding more specific details and evidence. For example, when you mention the WHO statistic about 80% of diseases, you could also include local information about your town's river or specific examples of pollution you've witnessed. Additionally, some of your paragraphs could be developed further—your third paragraph introduces the River Clean-Up Day idea but could explain exactly how it would be organised, who would lead it, or what resources would be needed. Also, consider strengthening the connection between your ideas by explaining *why* each point matters to Mayor Bob specifically. What benefits would a cleaner river bring to the town's economy or reputation? Finally, whilst your metaphors add interest, make sure each one creates a clear picture that readers can easily understand and connect to your main argument.

Section 2:

Supporting a River Clean-Up Day

Dear Mayor Bob, ~~do~~[Do] we want our rivers to turn into wastelands? The urgency of this issue must not be ignored. Keeping rivers clean can help us in many ways. ~~#1 Like a death swimming in water, our rivers are dying—as well as the marine life.~~[Our rivers are dying—choking on pollution that harms the marine life within them.] Fish, turtles, and other creatures are suffering because of the pollution we allow to build up. Our rivers used to be places of beauty, but now they are filled with rubbish, oil, and waste. If we do not act soon, we may lose them forever. Would we rather watch our rivers rot or restore them?

~~#2 Polluted rivers do not just harm animals—they harm us too. Would you drink from a glass filled with oil and plastic? That is what we are offering nature.~~[That is what we are offering nature when we allow rubbish and waste to flow into our waterways.] Dirty water spreads sickness, ruins habitats, and makes people feel unsafe in their own communities. ~~According to the World Health Organization~~[According to the World Health Organisation], around 80% of diseases in developing countries are linked to poor water quality. A clean river is like a lifeline—it brings health, happiness, and hope. It is not just water; it is the blood that flows through the veins of our environment. When rivers are clean, they breathe life into everything around them—from plants to people.

That is why I believe we should have a River Clean-Up Day. Imagine the whole town coming together like pieces of a puzzle, each person helping to complete the picture. Schools, families, and local businesses could join in. We could wear gloves, pick up rubbish, and learn how to protect our rivers. It would be fun, educational, and powerful. Isn't it better to be part of the solution than to watch the problem grow? A single day of effort could lead to years of cleaner water and healthier wildlife.

~~#3 We could spread the word using posters, social media, and school newsletters. Raising awareness is like planting seeds—once people understand the problem, they will want to help fix it.~~[Raising awareness is like planting seeds—once people understand the problem through posters displaying pollution facts and newsletters explaining how rubbish reaches our rivers, they will want to help fix it.] A clean-up day would teach kids and adults how important rivers are and how small actions can make

big waves. Clean rivers attract wildlife, tourists, and pride. Isn't that the kind of town we want to be remembered for?

In conclusion, I ask you to support a River Clean-Up Day. It is a simple idea with a significant impact. We can save our rivers, protect marine life, and make our community shine again. Let us not wait until the river is just a memory. Let us act now, together, and turn the tide before it is too late.

Sincerely,
Sehej Dhillon