## Term 4 - 2025: Week 3 Writing Homework | Year 5 Selective RW

#### **Section 1:**

#1: Opening paragraph - "Have you ever walked through our local park..."

## **Strengths:**

- Your opening uses a strong question to connect with readers immediately, making them picture the problem in their own minds.
- The specific examples (plastic bottles, chip packets, cans) paint a clear picture of the litter problem.

**Vague comparison:**  $\rightarrow$  The phrase "like lost toys" doesn't quite work because toys aren't usually something that rolls down paths naturally, and the comparison doesn't help readers understand the seriousness of the problem. The simile feels a bit random and doesn't strengthen your message about pollution.

**Exemplar:** "...and cans rolling down the path with every gust of wind" or "...and cans scattered across the footpath"

# #2: Middle paragraphs - "Dr. Sarah Evans..." through "...slowly suffocating the beauty..."

## **Strengths:**

- Including an expert's voice adds believability to your argument and shows you've thought about different perspectives.
- The metaphor of the park as a living creature is creative and helps readers feel emotionally connected to the issue.

**Underdeveloped metaphor:** → Whilst the park-as-creature metaphor is interesting, you only use it once and don't carry it through. After saying "each tree is a lung, each patch of grass a heartbeat," you could have explained more about how the park "breathes" or how litter affects its other "organs." The metaphor feels incomplete because it appears suddenly and then disappears just as quickly.

**Exemplar:** "Just as our bodies need clean air and water to survive, the park needs our care to keep its ecosystem healthy and thriving."

## #3: Solution paragraph – "But here's the good news..."

#### **Strengths:**

- You provide practical, achievable actions that readers can actually do, which makes your writing useful rather than just pointing out problems.
- The tone shifts nicely from serious to hopeful, encouraging readers to take action.

**List structure interrupts flow:** → Your solutions are presented as a long string of sentences all beginning with similar words ("Bring a reusable bag," "Join or start," "Encourage your family"). This creates a choppy feeling and makes the paragraph sound like a shopping list rather than flowing naturally. The sentences don't connect smoothly to each other, which makes them harder to remember.

**Exemplar:** "Start by bringing a reusable bag for your waste, and consider gathering friends for a weekend clean-up crew. At home, encourage your family to recycle properly, and whenever you spot rubbish on the ground—even if it's not yours—take a moment to pick it up."

■ Your piece presents a genuine local problem and makes readers care about it through specific details and emotional appeals. The evidence (200 kilograms weekly, 450 years for decomposition) strengthens your argument effectively. However, you could improve the depth by explaining *why* people litter in the first place—is it because bins are too far apart, or because people don't realise the harm? Additionally, your solutions paragraph would benefit from reorganising the ideas into groups: what individuals can do, what families can do, and what the community can do together. This would make your call-to-action clearer and easier to follow. Also, consider expanding on one or two of your solutions with specific examples—perhaps mention an existing clean-up group in your area or describe exactly how someone would start one.

Overall Score: 42/50

## **Section 2:**

#1 Our Park Is Drowning in Litter — and It's Time to Save It!

Have you ever walked through our local park, hoping to enjoy the fresh air, only to see plastic bottles glinting in the sun, chip packets tangled in the grass, and cans rolling down the path like lost toys? What was once a peaceful green escape is slowly becoming a landfill in disguise, and we're the ones turning it into one.

Every week, the council collects over 200 kilograms of rubbish from our park alone. That's about the weight of a baby elephant. Yet the next weekend, the bins overflow again and rubbish scatters like confetti after a parade. This endless cycle is not only ugly, it's [but also] dangerous. Birds and ducks often mistake shiny wrappers for food, and plastic rings can choke small animals.

#2 Dr. Sarah Evans, a local environmental scientist, warns, "Littering doesn't just spoil the view, it [but] poisons our soil, harms wildlife, and even pollutes our waterways. The smallest plastic can have the biggest impact."

Imagine the park as a living, breathing creature. Each tree is a lung, each patch of grass a heartbeat. But when we leave our rubbish behind, it's like throwing dirt into its lungs, slowly suffocating the beauty that keeps our community alive.

The sad truth is that litter doesn't just vanish. A single plastic bottle can take up to 450 years to decompose. That means the rubbish left behind today will still be polluting the planet when your great-great-grandchildren are walking these same paths.

#3 But here's the good news. We can fix this together. Small actions make a big difference. Next time you're at the park, bring a reusable bag for your waste. Join or start a weekend clean-up crew with your friends. Encourage your family to recycle properly at home. And if you see rubbish on the ground, pick it up, even if it isn't yours. Every little bit helps.

Our park has given us so much, from space to play and picnic to quiet moments under the trees. Now it's our turn to give something back. Let's turn this littered park back into a sparkling green gem where children can run, birds can sing, and nature can thrive once more. Our park can't fix itself, but together we can. Every bottle picked up, every wrapper recycled, every small act of care adds up to something bigger. Let's stand up for our planet, one piece of litter at a time, and show that when our community works together, nature wins. Because when we protect nature, we protect our future.