

2024 Earth Day Writing Contest

Grade 9 Functional Writing Prompt

Section II: Functional Writing (*Suggested time - 40 min*)

Read the situation below and complete the assignment that follows.

The situation:

Your name is Avery Greene and you are a student taking an environmental sciences class. Recently, a guest speaker joined your classroom and delivered a presentation about pollution. You learned about waste, including plastic, and the effect that it has on our environment. The speaker inspired you, and you decided to share this information with your local environmental stewardship organization in order to bring their attention to the issue.

Assignment:

Write a formal letter to LICA explaining what you believe is the most important focus in the responsible management of plastics.

When writing your letter:

- be sure to include a paragraph explaining why the issues you picked are the most important
- use a style of writing appropriate for a formal letter
- you may choose from the examples below, or you may choose your own
- you must also include appropriate information you find in your own research

Resources

- Potential health risks of plastics
<https://ecologycenter.org/factsheets/adverse-health-effects-of-plastics/>
- Finding sustainable alternatives to plastics
<https://science.howstuffworks.com/environmental/green-tech/sustainable/5-plastic-substitutes.htm>
- Finding alternatives to "fast fashion"
<https://www.earthday.org/campaign/sustainable-fashion>
- Protecting the environment from long-term plastic waste
<https://www.un.org/africarenewal/magazine/may-2023/understanding-plastic-pollution-and-its-impact-lives>
- Removing plastic waste from our oceans
<https://oceanliteracy.unesco.org/plastic-pollution-ocean/>