

The Skatepark

GREENDALE TIMES

21 FEB.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

My name is Richard Anderson. I have been a resident in Greendale for more than 70 years. The skatepark in Harrington Point Park needs to go.

This used to be a very quiet part of town. It is not anymore. The locals I speak to tell me that they feel uncomfortable going out into their backyards because of the loud noise, the swearing, and the large groups of teenagers that hang around. People deserve to feel safe. It's like we have become prisoners in our own homes.

Not only that, but rubbish is constantly left all over the place. This is terrible for the environment, particularly as most of it gets blown into the nearby river. These troublemakers just do not care!

The skatepark is an eye sore. Harrington Point Park used to be such a beautiful place for families to picnic. Now it is a concrete jungle. The council needs to shut down this skatepark immediately.

Richard

GREENDALE TIMES

25 FEB.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

I am writing in response to Mr Anderson's letter (21 February) about the skatepark in Harrington Point Park. Mr Anderson is right that many of the residents are elderly, but he is forgetting that there are also many young residents. My name is Karl. I am 13 years old and I'm a student at Greendale High School.

Adults are always complaining that kids spend too much time playing video games and watching television. Surely most people would agree that kids getting out of the house and doing more exercising is a positive thing. If the skatepark is taken away, what will we do in our free time? There are not many other amenities for kids our age in this town.

Mr Anderson complains about the noise level at the skatepark. I think most people would agree that the sound of kids having fun is a wonderful thing. The skatepark also closes at 6pm, meaning that any of the noise ends at a very reasonable time.

It is disappointing to see that rubbish is occasionally left behind. Perhaps the council could place a bin at the skatepark. This would ensure the place is left clean.

Adults have bars, restaurants, cafés and much more. We have our skatepark and it needs to stay.

Karl



Task A: Comprehension

1. What is the purpose of each letter?

2. Where is the skatepark?

3. Find the metaphor Richard Anderson used. What effect does it have on the reader?

4. Which word in the text means 'make sure'?

5. On which date was Karl's letter printed in the newspaper?

6. Both writers have used exaggeration. Write an example from each letter.

7. Who do you think wrote the more persuasive letter? Explain your answer using evidence from the text.

8. What inferences can you make about Karl? Use evidence from the text.

Task B: Language and Grammar

1. **Adverbs of frequency** describe how often something occurs. For example:

Richard writes... 'rubbish is **constantly** left all over the place'

Karl writes... 'rubbish is **occasionally** left behind'

Write 3 sentences about your life using adverbs of frequency from the box.

always	usually	often
sometimes	rarely	never

a. _____

b. _____

c. _____

2. **Proper nouns** need capital letters. For example: 'school' doesn't need a capital, but '**Greendale School**' does.

Find **nouns** from the text and write them in table, showing whether they are proper nouns or common nouns.

Proper Nouns	Common Nouns

Task C: Challenge

Design a skate park for your local area or write a persuasive letter on a topic of your choice.