

Section 1:

#1 "First of all, recess is an important part of the school day..." (First paragraph) Strengths:

- Clear topic sentence that directly states your position
- Good use of personal experience to support your argument

Weakness: Lack of specific examples → Your writing mentions getting "fresh air" and "recharging" but doesn't provide concrete examples of how these benefit students. You could strengthen this by including specific activities or situations that show these benefits.

Exemplar: *During our current 20-minute recess, I barely have time to play one football match with my classmates before the bell rings, leaving us feeling rushed and unsatisfied.*

#2 "Additionally, a longer recess would allow students..." (Second paragraph) Strengths:

- Strong connection between physical activity and academic performance
- Good use of cause and effect

Weakness: Limited development of ideas → Your writing mentions physical exercise but doesn't fully explore its impact on learning. The connection between movement and concentration needs more detailed explanation with specific examples.

Exemplar: *After playing basketball during recess, I notice that I can focus better in maths class and solve problems more quickly because my mind feels refreshed.*

#3 "Another reason to extend recess..." (Third paragraph) Strengths:

- Addresses social-emotional benefits
- Clear linking words for smooth transition

Weakness: Underdeveloped argument → Your writing lists social benefits but doesn't explain how these skills specifically help in school life. The examples given are too general and need more specific situations.

Exemplar: *During group games like capture the flag, we learn to create strategies together and resolve conflicts fairly, which helps us work better on group projects in class.*

■ Your persuasive piece presents good arguments but needs more depth and specific examples to make it more convincing. Consider adding real-life situations from your school experience to

support each point. Your paragraphs could be longer with more detailed explanations of how extended recess time would benefit different types of students. Try to include counter-arguments and address potential concerns about extending recess time.

Actionable Task: Rewrite your second paragraph about physical exercise, including two specific examples of activities you do during recess and explain exactly how they help you perform better in specific lessons.

Score: 39/50

Section 2:

Dear Principal Xu(Steve),

I am writing to share my thoughts on the idea of making recess 10 minutes longer. I believe this is a fantastic idea that would benefit both students and the overall school environment.

#1 ~~First of all, recess is an important part of the school day. It gives students a chance to take a break from their studies, get some fresh air, and recharge for the next lessons.~~ [Taking a break from our studies allows us to get fresh air and recharge our minds for the next lessons.] Currently, 20 minutes of recess feels a little short, especially when we have so much energy after sitting in class for a while. By adding just 10 more minutes, we would have more time to relax and play, which would help us stay focused and engaged during class time.

#2 ~~Additionally, a longer recess would allow students to get more physical exercise, which is important for our health and well-being.~~ [Furthermore, extending recess would provide us with more opportunities for physical exercise, which is crucial for our health and well-being.] With an extra 10 minutes, we would have more time to run, play sports, or engage in other activities that help us stay active. This would not only be good for our bodies but also for our minds, as physical activity can improve concentration and reduce stress.

#3 Another reason to extend recess is that it can improve our social skills. With more time to interact with friends, we can build stronger relationships and learn how to work together as a team. Whether it's playing a game, solving a problem, or just chatting, the extra time would give us more opportunities to connect and communicate with each other.

In conclusion, I believe that making recess 10 minutes longer would have many positive effects on students. It would help us stay healthy, focused, and socially connected. I hope you will consider this suggestion and make recess a little longer for all of us.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,
Cecilia