

Section 1:

#1 "I strongly believe that extending recess by 10 minutes would make our school a happier, healthier, and more productive place. Every day, our playground bursts with energy as students laugh, run, and build friendships, but the bell always rings too soon, cutting our joy short like a cloud covering the sun."

Strengths:

- Your engaging opening with a clear position
- Your effective use of imagery with the cloud metaphor

Weakness: Lack of specific impact → You mention happiness and health but don't explain how exactly 10 minutes would create these benefits. The metaphor about the cloud is nice but takes space that could be used to give concrete examples of what happens when recess ends too soon.

Exemplar: *I strongly believe that extending recess by 10 minutes would benefit our school, as students currently must pack up games mid-match and rush through their social interactions, leaving them frustrated and less focused for their next lesson.*

#2 "Moving our bodies and enjoying the outdoors must be a priority because it keeps us focused and energised, like a flower blooming after a refreshing rain."

Strengths:

- Your connection between exercise and learning
- Your use of nature imagery

Weakness: Underdeveloped reasoning → Your comparison to a flower is lovely but you've missed the chance to explain how movement actually improves focus. You could mention real examples of how students feel tired or restless without enough exercise.

Exemplar: *Moving our bodies and enjoying the outdoors must be a priority because physical activity increases blood flow to our brains, helping us concentrate better in class, while also reducing fidgeting and restlessness during lessons.*

#3 "Please make this powerful change for us. Together, we will use every precious second to grow, learn, and shine as the best students we can be."

Strengths:

- Your positive and collaborative tone
- Your emphasis on student improvement

Weakness: Vague conclusion → Your ending promise lacks specific examples of how you'll use the extra time. The words "grow" and "shine" sound nice but don't tell the principal exactly what positive changes they'll see.

Exemplar: *Please support this valuable change. We promise to use these extra minutes wisely, returning to class more settled and ready to learn, which will help improve our academic performance and classroom behaviour.*

■ Your letter shows passion for the topic but needs more specific examples and evidence. You could strengthen your argument by describing actual situations where longer recess would help, like finishing sports matches or having proper conversations with friends. Try making your letter longer by adding more details about how extended recess time connects to better learning outcomes. You might also want to address possible concerns about losing teaching time.

Actionable task: Rewrite your second paragraph focusing on giving two specific examples of how extra recess time improves student learning and behaviour in class.

Score: 39/50

Section 2:

Dear principal,

#1 I strongly believe that extending recess by 10 minutes would make our school a happier, healthier, and more productive place. Every day, our playground bursts with energy as students laugh, run, and build friendships, but the bell always rings too soon, cutting our joy short like a cloud covering the sun.

This extra time would allow us to finish our games, feel the fresh air on our faces, and strengthen our bonds with classmates. #2 ~~Moving our bodies and enjoying the outdoors must be a priority because it keeps us focused and energised~~ [Moving our bodies and enjoying the outdoors must be a priority because it keeps us focused and energised], like a flower blooming after a refreshing rain.

I firmly support this change because it is essential for better learning. After longer breaks, our minds would return sharper, calmer, and ready to absorb knowledge. These extra minutes should not be seen as just playtime but as an investment in our well-being and success.

~~#3 Please make this powerful change for us. Together, we will use every precious second to grow, learn, and shine as the best students we can be.~~ [Please consider this important change for our school community. We will use every extra minute purposefully to develop our social skills and return to class ready to excel in our studies.]

Yours Sincerely,
R9