

Section 1

#1

"Close your eyes and envision the barren wasteland that the playground has become, fractured and corroded. Envision the excruciating fractures and agonising anguish caused by the monkey bars, a scythe sweeping across unknowing children. Envision the chains of the swings now corrupting, daggers awaiting their victim."

Strengths:

- Your vivid imagery creates a powerful mental picture for the reader
- Your use of repetition with "envision" adds emphasis and rhythm

Weaknesses: Melodramatic language → Your language is excessively dramatic and uses overly negative descriptions that may undermine your credibility. Phrases like "barren wasteland," "scythe sweeping," and "daggers awaiting their victim" use extreme comparisons that seem unrealistic and might make Principal Brown dismiss your concerns rather than take them seriously.

Exemplar: *"Close your eyes and picture our once vibrant playground that has now become worn and damaged. Imagine the potential injuries from the unsafe monkey bars that pose risks to unaware children. Consider the rusting chains of the swings that could harm students."*

#2

"We deserve better. I can understand your problems with fixing the playground as it destabilises the school's financial balance for merely entertainment. This brings finance into perspective as well, however, it is not just entertainment that is being executed, it is also the students' future lives that are being crushed because of this. Wealth can be regained. Lives, hopes and dreams cannot."

Strengths:

- You acknowledge the financial considerations, showing you understand multiple perspectives
- Your contrast between wealth and lives creates a memorable point

Weaknesses: Accusatory tone → Your writing adopts a blaming tone that might make the principal defensive rather than open to your suggestions. Phrases like "merely entertainment" and "students' future lives that are being crushed" suggest the principal doesn't care about student wellbeing, which weakens your persuasive appeal by creating an adversarial relationship rather than a collaborative one.

Exemplar: *"Our school community deserves a safe play area. While I understand that playground repairs affect the school budget, this investment supports more than just recreation—it supports our physical development and wellbeing. While budgets can be adjusted, student safety should remain our highest priority."*

#3

"Do you want to be the gravedigger of hopes and dreams, or the saviour of the students. Do want to be the executioner of future lives, or the beacon of hope towards all of the children educated under these roofs. Do you want to be remembered as the one who betrayed her own kind, or the altruistic benevolence to everyone. You either value the haven of hope that you created, or cold green cash. Choose correctly."

Strengths:

- Your parallel structure creates a powerful rhythm
- Your direct questions engage the reader personally

Weaknesses: False choices → You present extreme either/or options that don't accurately reflect reality. Phrases like "gravedigger of hopes and dreams" versus "saviour of the students" create false choices that might make the principal feel manipulated rather than persuaded. This approach can damage your credibility and make your argument less effective because it oversimplifies a complex situation.

Exemplar: *"As our principal, you have an opportunity to prioritise student safety while balancing school resources. By addressing the playground concerns, you'll demonstrate your commitment to both our physical wellbeing and our educational environment. I believe you care about creating the best possible school for everyone."*

■ Your persuasive email shows passion for playground safety, which is a strength. However, your message would be more effective with a calmer, more balanced approach. Try focusing on specific safety concerns rather than using dramatic language that might seem exaggerated. Your comparison between physical and academic growth is thoughtful, but gets lost among emotional appeals. Also, consider your audience - Principal Brown will respond better to respectful requests than to accusations or ultimatums. You could improve by offering specific, practical suggestions for playground improvements. Additionally, you might want to organise your email more clearly with an introduction stating your main concern, body paragraphs with evidence, and a conclusion with a clear request. Your email would be stronger if you used a

collaborative tone that assumes the principal shares your concern for student safety rather than suggesting they don't care.

Score: 41/50

Section 2

Re: Immediate Action Needed - Hazardous Playground claiming Bones of Children To: Brown@gmail.com

Dear Principal Brown,

I am writing to ~~accentuate~~ [emphasise] my ~~gargantuan~~ [significant] concern upon the ~~eroding~~ [deterioration] of our once invigorating playground, stemming from my root worries about student safety, educational value, and physical exercise.

~~#1 Close your eyes and envision the barren wasteland that the playground has become, fractured and corroded. Envision the excruciating fractures and agonising anguish caused by the monkey bars, a scythe sweeping across unknowing children. Envision the chains of the swings now corrupting, daggers awaiting their victim. [Close your eyes and picture our playground that has fallen into disrepair, with damaged and corroded equipment. Consider the serious injuries that could be caused by the unsafe monkey bars, putting children at risk. Think about the rusting chains of the swings that could harm students using them.]~~

Now look at the playground. The seemingly innocent playground has been the cause of 46 fractures over the course of these two years, and counting. It has struck ~~paranoid~~ [serious] anxiety into the hearts of students, their faces ~~paralysed~~ [frozen] in fear. I implore you, ~~honourable~~ [respected] principal, to replace this ~~eroding~~ [deteriorating] playground with a much more vibrant, beneficial environment where children can learn and play.

~~How can you sleep at night knowing that students from your school have had their bones fractured because of the playground equipment from your school? [As our school leader, I'm sure you share my concern about students being injured by our playground equipment.] I once heard my Grandmother's sobbing as she said her last words, "Be safe in the dangerous world", but how can I fulfill this promise when I am faced with an ~~oppressive~~ [unsafe] climbing frame that grazes my shoulder?~~

Academic research has even proved that 54% of youth fractures happen because of adult ~~misconduct~~ [poor maintenance] of playground equipment, often leading to the breaking of the

wrist or collarbone. I not only advise you, but urgently beseech you to have a safety specialist assess the school's equipment, and a school inspector to guide you.

In today's world, a world of digital addiction and sore eyes, it is crucial to have physical activity daily. Where else but school can they get the exercise they require? School isn't just an ~~epitome~~ [example] of academic growth, but also a ~~quintessence~~ [foundation] for physical growth, providing both halves for a healthy life. Scientists have even proven that physical exercise increases cognitive functions such as focus and memory, as well as elevated mood, bringing a curiosity to learn. The playground has offered all of these, but now the playground lurches causing anxiety in students' minds, and deteriorated focus in their classrooms. This demolishes both the mind and body, as the playground connecting the two is destroyed.

~~#2 We deserve better. I can understand your problems with fixing the playground as it destabilises the school's financial balance for merely entertainment. This brings finance into perspective as well, however, it is not just entertainment that is being executed, it is also the students' future lives that are being crushed because of this. Wealth can be regained. Lives, hopes and dreams cannot.~~ [We deserve a safe play area. I understand that repairing the playground affects the school budget and requires careful financial planning. However, this isn't just about recreation—it's about our safety, health and development. While budgets can be adjusted, our wellbeing should remain a top priority.]

~~#3 Do you want to be the gravedigger of hopes and dreams, or the saviour of the students. Do want to be the executioner of future lives, or the beacon of hope towards all of the children educated under these roofs. Do you want to be remembered as the one who betrayed her own kind, or the altruistic benevolence to everyone. You either value the haven of hope that you created, or cold green cash. Choose correctly.~~ [As our principal, you have the opportunity to make a positive difference in our school environment. By addressing the playground concerns, you'll show your commitment to both our safety and our educational experience. I believe you want to create the best possible school for all students, and fixing the playground would demonstrate that commitment.]

Yours sincerely

Nandu Praveen, Student Representative of Year 6 Nandupraveensmail@gmail.com