TERM 1 2025 | 18th April | HOLIDAY WRITING

Section 1:

#1 (First paragraph): Strengths: Your opening establishes a personal connection to the playground and attempts to position yourself as knowledgeable about the playground equipment. Weakness: Unfocused introduction → The paragraph begins with a vague purpose statement and jumps between different ideas without clear organization. Phrases like "really nice place" and "well built" lack specific details that would help establish the urgency of your concern. I would like to discuss the serious safety concerns regarding our school playground, which has become increasingly dangerous for students of all ages despite being a central gathering space for our community.

#2 (Third paragraph): Strengths: You effectively use emotional language ("enrages," "ruins my day," "exuberant") to convey your feelings about the playground situation. Weakness: Exaggerated claims → The paragraph makes extreme statements such as "It's just inhumane to expect kids to try and have fun without a playground!" without providing balanced reasoning. These hyperbolic claims weaken your persuasive appeal to the principal. While the current state of our playground equipment negatively impacts student morale and safety, a renovation would significantly improve both the students' enjoyment and their physical wellbeing during recreational periods.

#3 (Fourth paragraph): Strengths: You attempt to include evidence by mentioning a survey of former students to support your argument. Weakness: Questionable evidence → The survey methodology described lacks credibility with phrases like "I interrogated them" and the leading question "Was the playground in primary school just broken and unhygienic?" This undermines your argument rather than strengthening it. Based on feedback collected from 20 former students, 85% reported safety concerns with the playground equipment, with 17 respondents specifically mentioning incidents where they or their friends experienced falls due to unstable equipment.

Your piece needs significant improvement in terms of formal tone and structure to be effective as a letter to a principal. The content includes important safety concerns, but the delivery lacks the professionalism required for this audience. Your writing would benefit from more organized paragraphs with clear topic sentences, proper transitioning between ideas, and more precise language throughout.

The evidence you've included about student surveys could be powerful if presented more professionally. Additionally, your descriptions of specific playground equipment issues provide concrete examples but need more formal phrasing. Also, you need to strengthen your conclusion with a clear call to action that respectfully requests consideration rather than demanding it.

The informal tone and colloquial expressions like "us kids" and "Well, to my surprise" are inappropriate for a formal letter to a principal. Your piece would be more persuasive if you eliminated repetitive phrases such as "fell flat on my face" and replaced them with varied, formal alternatives. Finally, careful proofreading would help eliminate grammatical errors and improve the overall impression of your writing.

Overall Score: 37/50

Section 2:

Subject: Request for Urgent Playground Renovations Due to Safety Concerns

Dear Mr Thompson,

I would like to talk [discuss] about the playground that us [we] kids love to play in. It's a really nice place to hang out with your [our] friends and younger kids spend a lot of time there. So we know what play equipment is hygienic and well built. Other playing equipment isn't [is not] really as clean and sturdy. Well [In fact,] what I mean is that the spider web that we all love climbing on is really unstable. I was climbing on it a few days ago so that I could hide from my friends. Well [During this time,] while I was climbing one of the strings broke. Right on the spot. Well [Additionally,] I also was holding on [onto] another string but that was also loose. So I ended up falling face flat.

This might not be a big deal but it's really unsafe. If this is the condition of the playground then another kid will fall off any day. The enigmatic and haunted monkey bars are also another example of the hazardous playground. Well [Just] today at recess I was on the monkey bars with my friends and when I got on the monkey bars the bars started making creaking noises and I was worried that I was going to fall off. Well, to my

surprise [As expected] I was right. I fell flat on my face again. The monkey also had a lot of rainbow bugs on it [them] with spider webs.

#2 Students go to the playground to grow bonds with their friends and enjoy their time together. How are they going to have fun at a playground that's [that is] broken? This playground needs a renovation for quality controls and safety concerns. It enrages me and ruins my day when I fall down from the monkey bars and spider web. I Am [I am] sure a lot of students would be furious if they just fell off the play equipment. If you renovate the playground I'm [I am] sure that a lot more kids would be exuberant showing up and going to a playground that isn't [is not] broken. The renovation might be expensive but a lot more people will like the new look of the playground so they'll [they will] play there too. What's [What is] the point of recess if kids ean't [cannot] have fun at the playground? It's just inhumane to expect kids to try and have fun without a playground!

#3 Lots of students have complained about the playground. I asked 20 students that used to go to our school last year and I interrogated them because no one liked the state of the playground and I wanted them to be honest. I asked them this question: "Was the playground in primary school just broken and unhygienic?" Which to all of the participants replied with, yes. I'm [I am] not the only one that thinks that the playground is bad. 17 of them replied with "When I went to the playground either me/my friend fell from the play equipment because of the stability."

#1 The playground is not the best right now because of quality control and cleanliness. One renovation would fix this problem for at least 4-5 years minimum. I know this because my old school renovated their playground. It looked all dusty and fragile. When we renovated it I believe it was in kindergarten. I moved here in year 5. My last day at my old school, I went to the playground. It was still clean even after 6 years. A lot of students will be happy if you renovated [renovate] the playground because We [we] did a survey last year before you were the principal: "What was your reason for not playing in the playground?" There were two options: A:Because of how old the playground is. B: Because you just don't like the playground. Well firstly the teachers know how bad the quality is, they literally asked us if that was the reason if we didn't [don't] like the playground999. Secondly 87% answered with option A. We did another survey a few months after that one to see how many people actually play in the playground. 44% said that they play in the playground. That's [That is] a 43% increase in people playing in the playground if you renovated [renovate] it. Please take this letter into account.

Yours sincerely,

Samyar Attarian.