

Writing Feedback

DAY 6 | HOLIDAY WRITING HOMEWORK

Section 1:

#1: Email 1, Paragraph 1 Strengths:

- You've created a vivid picture of the dilapidated playground through descriptive language.
- Your use of sensory details helps the reader visualize the poor conditions.

Weakness: Sentence structure → This opening paragraph consists of one extremely long run-on sentence that affects readability and impact. The paragraph would be more effective if broken into multiple sentences with proper punctuation. The formal tone expected in a council letter is also missing.

Exemplar: *Dear Councillor, I am writing to bring your urgent attention to the concerning state of our school playground. The monkey bars are rotting away, while the once-bright yellow slide has faded dramatically, appearing decades older than its actual age. The floorboards creak dangerously underfoot, and the concrete is cracked throughout the play area.*

#2: Email 2, Paragraph 1 Strengths:

- Good use of emotive language to create urgency about the playground condition.
- Effective detailed descriptions of specific hazards that create concern.

Weakness: Audience adaptation → While the email addresses the business owner directly, it jumps straight into the request without establishing a relationship or connection with the recipient. There's no introduction explaining who you are or why the business owner should be interested in helping.

Exemplar: *Hello Maverick, My name is Pukhraj, and I'm reaching out regarding our local school playground that desperately needs renovation. As a respected business owner in our community, your support could make a tremendous difference to the children who currently face hazardous conditions daily: loose platforms that wobble beneath their feet, rusting metal equipment with dangerous sharp edges, and neglected areas where plants once grew.*

#3: Email 1, Paragraph 3 Strengths:

- Your inclusion of a specific example about Anthony Carlos adds credibility and emotional impact.
- The connection between the injury and his ruined dreams creates emotional resonance.

Weakness: Figurative language → Despite the prompt requiring figurative language, this powerful example lacks metaphor, simile or personification that could enhance its emotional impact. The statement about dreams being "savagely destroyed" is emotive but not truly figurative.

Exemplar: *Just a few months ago, 8-year-old Anthony Carlos was enjoying the swings when the faulty equipment suddenly gave way like a trapdoor beneath him. As he fell to the ground, he heard his arm crack—a sound that echoed the shattering of his tennis career dreams. The X-ray confirmed a fractured elbow, and with it, his aspirations withered like unwatered seedlings.*

Your emails show good potential in creating emotional appeals about the playground renovation. The descriptions of the deteriorating conditions effectively convey the urgent need for intervention. You've successfully painted a picture of the current state and what could be achieved through renovation.

Additionally, your attempt to engage the senses works well in several sections, particularly when describing visual elements like rotting monkey bars and faded markings. Both emails contain clear requests, which is essential for persuasive writing.

Also, I notice your contrast between the current state and potential future state creates a compelling narrative in both emails. However, your writing would benefit from better structure and organization. Breaking up long sentences, using proper email formatting with appropriate salutations (especially for the council member), and creating clearer paragraph divisions would strengthen your message considerably.

Your persuasive technique could be enhanced by focusing more on the benefits to each specific audience—highlighting community reputation and safety compliance for the council member, and potential publicity and community goodwill for the business owner. Remember that persuasive writing should always address "what's in it for them."

Overall score: 42/50

Section 2:

Email 1

Subject: ~~To request~~ [Request for] ~~inspect~~ [inspection] on school playground.

To: MemberCouncil@gmail.com.au

Dear ~~Local Council~~ [Councillor],

~~Conceptualise~~ [Imagine], a school playground with its monkey bars rotting, the once bright yellow slide ~~fainted~~ [faded] in colour looking as if it was a hundred years old, the ~~creeking~~ [creaking] floorboards as loud as can be, cracked concrete making the playground even ~~worser~~ [worse], faded markings on the basketball court and worst of all the sunlight digging right into your skin with there being limited shade for all students during summer~~this~~ [. This] isn't a 2 star rated school but one of the ~~good rated~~ [highly rated schools].

#1 Even having one step in the playground can give ~~any one~~ [anyone] shivers with ~~no~~ [not] knowing of the cruel traps laid beneath the ground. Playing in the playground is a moment of pure misery. From running to playing ~~there~~ [there's] no greater sense of dread, the beautiful flowers and trees now swaying around, its [their] ~~petal~~ [petals] and branches now dull in colour.

#3 Just a few ~~moths~~ [months] ago ~~8-year-old~~ [8-year-old] Anthony Carlos was on swings going up and down when the swing broke and ~~the kid~~ [he] fell to the ground stating he heard his arm crack, ~~he had done~~ [he had] an X-ray and ~~the boy~~ [he] found out he had fractured his elbow, his future dreams of becoming a tennis player now savagely destroyed.

Another one of the many great problems ~~are~~ [is] that if the ~~playgrounds~~ [playground's] grass is ~~to~~ [too] big it may become a good habitat for many creatures. This can become a problem as creatures may harm many children and many serious situations.

Finally, I request the local council to inspect the school and raise support by giving someone the responsibility to help the school become a better place. Just imagine how many times better the playground will become once it is renovated with nothing to worry about.

Sincerely,

Pukhraj

Email 2

Subject: ~~For~~ [Request for] a sponsorship to the school.

To: Business owner Maverick (Maverick2456@gmail.com.au.)

#2 Hello, Maverickas [, as] you have probably guessed ~~by~~ [from the] subject, I am writing this ~~Email~~ [email] to hopefully convince you to sponsor the school as its playground is in horrendous condition, loose platforms, sharp metal rods already rotting within the darkness~~one~~ [—one] cut and ~~its~~ [it's] over, holes in the ground where there used to be plants not dug out by the roots.

The playground should be a place of leisure, socialising and playing but if the playground and the equipment given is [are] bad ~~than~~ [then] it would be difficult for kids to embrace their restlessness and energy~~if~~ [. If] that's taken from them kids will probably ~~overtime~~ [over time] get anxiety and stress.

If you, Maverick, raise sponsorship or even raise a bit of money for the school~~the~~ [, the] principal may even start renovating the playground and it will ~~became~~ [become] an overall better place, kids won't get hurt.

Imagine the dark and mischievous playground becoming better~~the~~ [—the] dead trees now in a fluffy bundle of leaves, the disgusting rotting monkey bars now sparkling in the day, more benches added and the touch of the coloured walls spreading its freshness throughout you. The once annoying faded lines on the basketball court now renewed, all this can happen just by sponsoring the school.

Hopefully because of all the above arguments I have successfully convinced you to raise some money and I kindly ask you to sponsor the school as it will help make the school a more safe and enjoyable place.

Regards,

Pukhraj