Writing Feedback

TERM 1 2025 | 18th April | HOLIDAY WRITING

Section 1:

#1 - Informal Email (First paragraph)

Strengths:

- You effectively establish the purpose of your email with a clear statement of concern about the playground's condition.
- Your use of emotive language ("deep concern," "disheartening") successfully conveys urgency.

Weakness: Lack of engaging opening. \rightarrow Your opening sentence is generic and doesn't immediately capture attention or create connection with fellow students. The phrase "I hope this message finds you well" is formal and doesn't match the informal register expected for this audience.

Hi everyone! Have you noticed how our once-awesome playground has turned into a dangerous mess? Those creaky swings and that rusty slide are accidents waiting to happen!

#2 - Formal Email (Second paragraph)

Strengths:

- You use powerful descriptive language that paints a vivid picture of the playground's deterioration.
- The emotional appeal is effectively conveyed through phrases like "emotionally crushed" and "echoes of laughter."

Weakness: Overemphasis on emotional appeal. \rightarrow Your paragraph relies heavily on emotional appeals without balancing with objective evidence. Phrases like "emotionally crushed" and "mere whispers of a distant past" could be complemented with specific examples of how the deterioration impacts learning or safety to strengthen your case to the principal.

Regrettably, our playground facilities have deteriorated significantly, with equipment showing visible signs of disrepair. The swings exhibit dangerous levels of rust and structural instability, while the once-vibrant play structures now feature peeling paint and damaged components. These conditions not only diminish the aesthetic appeal of our campus but pose legitimate safety concerns for our students.

#3 - Formal Email (Fifth paragraph)

Strengths:

- You effectively introduce an additional benefit (eco-friendly materials) that adds value to your renovation proposal.
- You create an appealing vision of the renovated playground that the principal can visualize.

Weakness: Abrupt tonal shift. \rightarrow The paragraph contains a sudden shift in tone with the phrase "You may doubt the durability of this, there are many good options like terracotta" which breaks the formal register and sounds conversational rather than professional. This undermines the otherwise persuasive nature of your argument.

Additionally, incorporating eco-friendly materials such as recycled plastic composites and sustainable timber into the renovation would enhance our students' environmental awareness whilst providing exceptional durability. Research indicates that modern sustainable playground materials often outlast traditional options, offering excellent value for investment while demonstrating our school's commitment to environmental stewardship.

Your writing demonstrates strong persuasive elements in both emails, with appropriate use of emotive and descriptive language. The informal email effectively conveys urgency and calls fellow students to action, while the formal email presents a structured argument for playground renovation. To enhance your writing further, focus on maintaining consistent register throughout each email and balancing emotional appeals with concrete evidence. Also, consider personalizing your informal email opening to better connect with your peer audience, and ensure your formal email maintains professional language throughout.

Overall score: 47/50

Section 2:

Informal Email

Subject: Our Playground is Falling Apart – It's Time to Stand Up!

To: Fellow Students

From: Ryan Khov

Date: 18/04/2025

#1 Dear Everyone,

I hope this message finds you well. I am writing to express my deep concern regarding the deteriorating condition of our playground, an issue that many of us have noticed but have yet to address collectively. It has become increasingly clear that this space, which should inspire joy and foster community, has instead turned into a safety hazard. Each day, we encounter swings that barely move, rusty slides that could injure someone, and cracked pavement that poses a tripping risk. It is disheartening to witness such neglect in a space that was designed for fun and relaxation. We must unite to demand the necessary changes so that our playground can once again fulfil its intended purpose.

The safety implications of the playground's condition cannot be overstated. What was once a haven for children to play freely is now a site of potential injury, where we must constantly worry about the risk of accidents. Imagine a child getting hurt due to the rusted equipment or cracked surfaces—this is a very real concern that we cannot ignore any longer. The simple act of enjoying the outdoors has become fraught with anxiety, and it is unacceptable for us to tolerate these hazardous conditions. Our community deserves a playground that is not only visually appealing but safe for everyone who uses it, especially the children.

While it's easy to express our frustrations in casual discussions, we must transform this dialogue into action. Many of us have shared our hopes for improvements to the

playground, but we need to organize and present a unified voice to the school administration. The current situation is a clear indication that voicing our concerns individually has been ineffective; it is time to escalate our efforts. By joining forces, we can convey a sense of urgency that demonstrates just how serious this issue is and how it affects us all. Our experience as daily users of this playground give [gives] us valuable insight, and it's our responsibility to ensure that those in charge understand just how critical this situation has become.

Gathering support from peers is essential in this endeavour. I urge each of you to share this message and discuss the playground's condition among your friends and classmates. We can build a coalition that articulates our concerns and presents a compelling case for change. By leveraging our collective voice, we can apply pressure to the administration and the school board to take action. The goal is to make it clear that this is not merely a complaint from a few students but a significant issue that affects a large portion of our community. A strong, unified message will be harder to ignore, and we can effectively advocate for expedited improvements.

It is critical that we act swiftly; the longer we wait, the worse the conditions will become. With every passing day, the potential for injury increases. What could be a simple fix may escalate into a more significant problem requiring extensive repairs or even complete replacement of equipment. We cannot allow the playground to deteriorate further; immediate action is necessary to prevent this from happening. We need to focus our efforts on raising awareness and ensuring that this issue receives the attention it rightfully deserves. By organising ourselves and collectively voicing our concerns, we can make certain that our playground does not fall further into disrepair.

In closing, I encourage each of you to join me in this crucial fight for a safer, more enjoyable playground. Together, we can advocate for the changes needed to restore our playground to its rightful state—a space where we can gather, play, and connect without fear of injury. Let's stand together and demand that the school administration addresses these pressing issues head-on. Our community deserves a playground that is safe, functional, and welcoming, and with your support, I believe we can achieve this goal. So let us fight together for a new playground, a new area of safety and a new place of happiness.

Thank you,

Ryan Khov

Formal Email

Topic: Urgent: Unsafe Playground Requires Immediate Renovation

To: Principal Johnson

From: Ryan Khov

Date: 18/04/2025

Dear Principal Johnson,

I hope this email finds you well. Today, I am reaching out with an urgent plea regarding our school playground, an area that is indispensable for our students' physical, emotional, and social development. It is paramount that we prioritize its immediate renovation, as the current state of our playground has become a concern not just for its aesthetics, but for the well-being of our children.

#2 Regrettably, the playground has deteriorated to an alarming extent. Once a vibrant hub pulsating with laughter and delight, it now stands as a mere dark shadow of its former self, a glaring reminder of what has been lost. The dangerously rusted swings creak ominously in the wind, while the faded, peeling colours of the slides fail to inspire any semblance of excitement. Our students are emotionally crushed by this decline, as their haven for joy and carefree play has been stripped away. The echoes of laughter that once filled this space are now mere whispers of a distant past. Without immediate renovations, we risk losing not just a playground, but the spirit of joy and connection that it once symbolised among our children. This urgent call to action demands our attention; we must revitalize the playground for the sake of our students' happiness and well-being.

Research underscores the critical importance of play in child development. According to the American Academy of Paediatrics, play is indispensable for fostering social skills, creativity, and problem-solving abilities. Our current playground, however, is inadequate for fulfilling these essential developmental needs. The lack of dynamic and engaging play structures severely hampers our students' opportunities to forge lasting friendships and acquire vital life skills. By investing in renovations, we can quickly transform the playground into a thriving environment that empowers our children to explore, learn, and grow in a safe community setting.

Moreover, it is vital to consider the emotional ramifications of a renovated playground. Picture the joyful sounds of children gleefully racing down shiny new slides, the lively interaction among friends engaged in inventive games, and the profound sense of unity that flourishes within a well-designed play area. A revamped playground can become the heartbeat of our school community, a place where friendships blossom and cherished memories are created. This transformative space would foster an essential sense of belonging for our students, nurturing not just their physical fitness but also their emotional resilience.

#3 Additionally, incorporating eco-friendly materials into the renovation would enhance our students' awareness of sustainability, teaching them the importance of caring for our planet while they play. Envision a playground adorned with lush greenery, vibrant installations, and innovative play zones that ignite curiosity and wonder in every child. A thoughtfully designed playground will not only enrich the experiences of current students but will also serve as an attractive draw for future families considering Maplewood School, further enhancing our community's appeal. You may doubt the durability of this, there are many good options like terracotta [Regarding durability concerns, modern sustainable options such as terracotta provide excellent longevity while maintaining environmental benefits.]

In light of these critical considerations, I urge you to take swift action regarding my heartfelt proposal for the revitalization of our school playground. This investment represents not just an improvement to our facilities, but a commitment to the happiness and well-being of our children that will yield immeasurable benefits for years to come. By making this initiative a priority, we can create a magical environment that uplifts spirit, transforms lives, and cultivates a tight-knit community.

I am eager to discuss this proposal further and explore available funding options, including grants and community fundraising efforts. Thank you for your prompt attention to this vital enhancement for our school's cherished playground. I look forward to your favourable and timely response.

Warm regards,

Ryan Khov