DAY 6 | 21st of April | HOLIDAY WRITING HOMEWORK

Section 1:

Part #1: Strengths: Your emotive language effectively conveys urgency and concern about the playground's condition. Your formal tone is appropriate for addressing a councillor.

Weakness: Overuse of dramatic language \rightarrow The excessive emotional language in your introduction diminishes the credibility of your argument. Phrases like "devastated play equipment" and "radiates fear and anxiety" may seem exaggerated to a council official expecting factual information.

Exemplar: Dear Councillor Jordan, I am writing as a senior student at David Hill Public School to express my serious concerns about the deteriorating condition of our school playground, which now poses significant safety risks to students.

Part #2: Strengths: The personal anecdote about Hayden creates a compelling narrative. You effectively illustrate the consequences of the playground's poor condition through a specific example.

Weakness: Overly graphic description → The detailed portrayal of Hayden's injury, with phrases like "crumbling uncontrollably," "wretched face was contorted with pain," and "tears rolled of his pale face" might appear melodramatic. A more measured account would likely be more persuasive to a council official.

Exemplar: Last Thursday, my classmate Hayden from 6A fell when a handrail broke under his weight. He sustained a serious injury requiring 12 stitches to his ankle. This is not an isolated incident, as several other children have been hurt due to similar equipment failures.

Part #3: Strengths: You've made a clear, specific request for action. Your conclusion is strong and memorable with the repetition of "restore."

Weakness: Missing specific details \rightarrow Your email lacks concrete information about what improvements are needed and potential costs. Phrases like "new and improved playground" are vague. Council officials need specific details to consider your request properly.

Exemplar: As our elected councillor, I respectfully request an immediate safety inspection of our playground, followed by funding for necessary renovations including replacement of the damaged wooden benches, repair of the uneven ground surface, and installation of proper safety surfacing under equipment to prevent further injuries.

■ Your persuasive email shows passion and concern for the playground issue, which is commendable. However, to make your argument more effective with council officials, you should balance emotional appeals with factual information. Also, your email would benefit from more specific details about what needs fixing and potential solutions. Additionally, including information about prior communication with school authorities would demonstrate you've followed proper channels. You might also strengthen your case by mentioning relevant safety standards that the current playground fails to meet. Finally, your email lacks the requested word count and doesn't fully address all requirements from the prompt, such as engaging three senses and adapting to the specific audience of a council member.

Score: 40/50

Section 2:

Dear Councillor Jordan,

I write to you not only as a cherished citizen of our city, but also as a senior student at David Hill Public School regarding the terrible state of our school playground. I find myself compelled to voice my concern over our school's devastated play equipment. Once safe haven [a safe haven] for students to engage with, now a place that radiates fear and anxiety. Unfortunately, the most critical part of our playground lacks safety features. The once sturdy wood benches have weathered to reveal splintering wood, collapsing with minimal weight. The once vibrant paint that covers our play equipment has been washed away, leaving teardrop-shaped eolors [colours] on the uneven ground, signalling [signalling] the wrecked state of our playground. #1

Last Thursday, I saw poor Hayden from 6A erumbling [crumbling] uncontrollably onto the ground after the hand bars [handbars] failed to hold his weight. I watched him fall in slow motion, heard the thump when his leg hit the sharp rocks that littered the ground. His wretched face was contorted with pain, his usual smile now forced to a painful frown.

The usual blazing look in his eyes faded, as tears rolled of [off] his pale face. I was forced to watch my friend suffer hopelessly, knowing that I could not stop the pain. All I could do was call for help and wait. Two weeks after the tragic incident, paramedics reportedly gave him 12 stitches for the deep gash formed in his ankle. This isn't all about Hayden, numerous other children have suffered the pain as [like] Hayden. By restoring our playground, you will have brought relief to more than 500 families. By restoring our playground, you would relieve students from their anxiety and suffering. #2

As parents, you entrust your beloved children to school, knowing that they wil [will] come home safe. Unfortunately, the same cannot be said for the parents of our school. Everyday, they have to worry about the safety of their children. Everyday [Every day], parents hope that the next to fall victim to our play equipment is not their child. Our playground seems like an obstacle course with hazardous play equipment everywhere. Dangerous craters and sharp rocks litter the pavement, choosing the next one to injure, the next victim. This environment is not only poses as [not only poses] a physical threat to our students, but also fills anxiety into our parents.

As our elected councillor member, I respectfully request an inspection immediately, followed by funding for a new and improved playground. Students at my school deserve a safe environment to thrive and exercise in. #3

We created this playground. We can restore this. We will restore this. We must restore this.

Yours faithfully,

Marvin David Hill Public School