

Section 1:

#1 Strengths: Your email introduces your position clearly and acknowledges counterpoints, showing balanced thinking. Your metaphor about a child missing an opportunity creates a vivid scenario for readers to consider.

Weakness: Tone inconsistency → Your formal tone in the opening shifts to a more casual and emotional appeal by the end. For example, you begin with "Dear Department of Education" and formal language, but then use phrases like "worked her head off" and end with questions rather than firm statements. This undermines your credibility with educational authorities.

Exemplar: ***Instead of "She works her head off, but instead, she doesn't get the result she wanted," consider "Despite her diligent preparation and significant effort, she misses out on the opportunity she deserved."***

#2 Strengths: Your speech opening establishes a clear position with urgency. You effectively structure your argument with "firstly, secondly, lastly" markers, which helps your audience follow your reasoning.

Weakness: Claim development → Your claims about disadvantaged students "lingering behind" and teachers focusing only on students with disabilities lack supporting evidence or concrete examples. For instance, your statement "they would never catch up to those children who study everyday, for more than 10 hours a day" presents an extreme scenario without substantiation.

Exemplar: ***Rather than "They would never catch up to those children who study everyday, for more than 10 hours a day," try "These students may struggle to meet the academic standards of the selective school environment, potentially affecting their confidence and educational progress."***

#3 Strengths: Your conclusion in the speech effectively summarises your three main points. Your call to action "abolish the advantage NOW!" creates a sense of urgency that works well in a speech format.

Weakness: Emotional exaggeration → Your speech relies heavily on emotional appeals without balancing them with logical reasoning or evidence. Phrases like "worked five times as hard, ten times more" and "study everyday, for more than 10 hours a day" use exaggeration rather than factual support, which weakens your argument.

Exemplar: ***Instead of "Lots of people work five times as hard, ten times more than the children with disabilities," consider "Many students without recognised disabilities dedicate significant time and effort to preparation, sometimes facing greater competition due to the current advantage system."***

■ Your writing shows strong potential in adapting to different text types, shifting between email and speech formats with appropriate structural elements for each. To improve the substance of your argument, consider researching specific examples of how the current system works and its impacts. The distinction between different types of disabilities needs more nuance – perhaps categorising disabilities based on how they affect test performance would strengthen your position. Also, your argument would benefit from addressing potential counterarguments more thoroughly. For example, what might proponents of the current system say in its defence? Your email could be more persuasive by maintaining a consistently formal tone throughout and providing specific recommendations for how disabilities should be categorised. In your speech, try balancing emotional appeals with factual support to create a more compelling argument that respects both sides of the debate.

---

**Score: 44/50**

---

Section 2:

Banning the 15% advantage in the OC and Selective Placement Test.

Email:

Subject: Application for approval of demolishing the 15% advantage in the OC and Selective School Placement Test for children with disabilities

Dear Department of Education,

The OC and Selective School Placement Test, as you know, have an advantage for students that aren't as fortunate as us, and have a 15% advantage. ~~In my opinion, and a lot of other parents and children, believe that the advantage should only be~~ [In my opinion, and that of many other parents and children, the advantage should only be given] for children who have difficulty studying, talking, or moving, not for those whose disabilities barely make a difference.

~~I have regarded this letter to you several times,~~ [I have considered writing this letter to you for some time,] hoping that you could take this one into mind. The OC and Selective School Placement test has been giving out a fifteen percent advantage to students who have "disabilities". I do agree that children with intellectual disadvantages, and children with disadvantages regarding their ability to move, or think, should most definitely have that 15% advantage in the two tests as mentioned before. But for children that have some disabilities that hardly affect them, like those with asthma or anaphylaxis should not have the advantage.

This will not cost any money at all, and nobody will even mind it. The sooner it is demolished, the better, as many future generations can have a better opportunity at the test. #1 Picture this: a child, with no problems, but asthma is doing the OC. ~~She works her head off, but instead, she doesn't get the result~~

~~she wanted~~. [She studies diligently for months, yet still doesn't achieve the result she hoped for.] But, because of the advantage, one child that has done better than her, might miss out on the opportunity to go to a better school, just because that girl got an advantage. Wouldn't it be unfair for all the other children out there, who have worked twice as hard, and three times more?

Thank you for your consideration, if you have any thoughts or comments about this subject, please message me back.

Yours sincerely, Audrey Gu

Speech:

Good morning everyone,

I feel that there is an ~~urge~~ [urgent need] to ban the 15% advantage during the OC, and the Selective School Placement Exam. It can lead to an unfair chance for some students, those students who do have the advantage may linger behind in their academics, and ~~that~~ the other children may not be able to learn as much, because the teacher is focusing on the child with special needs.

#2 Firstly, it would be unfair for the children that don't have the advantage. Lots of people work five times as hard, ten times more than the children with disabilities. But still, they were one spot away from getting into the school they have yearned for. The child with the so-called "disability" beat them, just because of their advantage, and the child without the "disability" got kicked out of the school they had dreamt of going to.

Secondly, the children with an advantage may linger behind in academics. If they'd only gotten into the school because they had gotten an advantage, the test results weren't because of talent, and knowledge, but instead, it was because they had gotten an advantage. They would never catch up to those children who study everyday, for more than 10 hours a day. It wouldn't be much of a use, if the child doesn't understand anything that they are learning.

Last but not least, other children in the class may not be able to learn as much, as the teachers are only focusing on the child with disabilities. Well, the child that was less fortunate than us, would have the most attention from the teacher, because A-they aren't that advanced in learning, and B-they have a "disability". Not having attention from the teacher can hold back a child a lot, as when they need help, they don't receive it.

#3 In conclusion, the advantage during the OC and Selective School Placement Test should be completely abolished, due to the unfair chances for other students, making the child with advantages linger behind, and other children won't be able to learn as much. So if you want a better chance at the Selective School Placement Test, we should abolish the advantage NOW!