

Section 1

#1: Opening paragraph

Strengths:

- Your opening clearly states the purpose of your letter right away, which helps Josh understand immediately what you're asking for
- You've included a polite greeting and well-wishing at the start, which sets a respectful tone

Incomplete reasoning: → You mention that wearing the costume will make the lesson "memorable" and help with engagement, but you haven't explained *why* these things matter or *how* exactly the costume achieves this. What is it about seeing someone in a banana costume that helps you learn better? Your reader needs to understand the connection between a funny costume and better learning.

Exemplar: *Wearing the banana costume will make the lesson memorable because it will create a positive, relaxed atmosphere where we feel comfortable taking risks with our writing and sharing our ideas without fear of judgement.*

#2: Body paragraph about the broken promise

Strengths:

- You've provided specific details about logging on during a public holiday, which shows how much effort you made
- You clearly explain the sequence of events (the original promise, the disappointment, the proposed solution)

Vague emotional appeals: → While you mention feeling "a little bit disappointed," you don't explain why this disappointment matters or what impact it had. Did it affect your trust? Did it make the lesson less enjoyable? Your writing would be stronger if you explained the actual consequences of the broken promise rather than just stating that disappointment existed.

Exemplar: *When you didn't wear the costume as promised, it dampened our enthusiasm for that day's lesson because we had been looking forward to celebrating together, and it made us feel that our special occasion wasn't being acknowledged.*

#3: Final body paragraphs (engagement and hard work)

Strengths:

- You've used transition words like "In addition" and "Furthermore" to connect your ideas
- You acknowledge the hard work your class has done, which adds context

Repetitive reasoning without development: → Your paragraphs about making the lesson "memorable" and increasing "engagement" essentially say the same thing in different words. You mention that the costume will make you "motivated, excited and eager to learn," but these are all very similar ideas. You haven't developed separate, distinct reasons. Each paragraph in a persuasive letter should present a new idea or angle, not reword the same point.

Exemplar: *Furthermore, wearing the banana costume demonstrates that learning can be joyful and creative. When teachers show their playful side, it reminds us that education isn't just about serious work—it's also about building positive relationships and creating a classroom community where everyone feels valued.*

■ Your letter shows good organisational skills with a clear structure of introduction, body paragraphs, and conclusion. However, your piece needs more depth in its reasoning. Right now, you're telling Josh what you want (the costume) and repeating that it will be "memorable" and "engaging," but you haven't really explained the deeper reasons why this matters. Think about the real purpose behind your request. Is it about celebrating your friendship with your teacher? Is it about ending the term on a positive note? Is it about learning that teachers can admit mistakes and keep promises? Your writing would be much stronger if you explored one or two of these deeper ideas thoroughly rather than repeating surface-level points.

Additionally, your second and third body paragraphs overlap too much. The paragraph about the broken promise is your strongest because it has specific details (the public holiday). Your other paragraphs need this same level of specific thinking. Instead of saying the costume will make you "engaged," explain exactly what being engaged looks like. Will you participate more in discussions? Will

you be more willing to revise your writing? Also, consider your audience more carefully. You mention working "incredibly hard over the past two weeks"—but is two weeks really long enough to "deserve" such a reward? You might want to rethink this claim or provide more context about what you've accomplished. Your conclusion effectively summarises your request, but it could be strengthened by adding one final thought about what this gesture would mean for your relationship with Josh as your teacher.

Overall Score: 41/50

Section 2

Dear Josh,

~~Hope~~ [I hope] this email finds you well.

#1 I am writing to request that you wear the banana costume to our last lesson on Friday~~which~~ [, which] you had initially promised to wear on my birthday. I believe that you should wear it as it will make it a memorable last writing lesson for us. ~~It will not only bring laughter, but also we will be more engaged in the lesson.~~ [It will not only bring laughter, but will also help us remain more engaged throughout the lesson.]

#2 To begin with, since you had already promised to wear the banana costume on my birthday, you should ~~fulfil~~ [fulfil] that promise by wearing the banana costume on Friday. We were waiting intently to see you in this costume on my birthday, but ~~was~~ [were] a little bit disappointed on that day. We had even logged on ~~a~~ [during a] public holiday to see you in the costume. By wearing the costume on Friday~~it~~ [, it] will make up for the great disappointment.

In addition, wearing the banana costume will make a memorable last lesson for us to enjoy. We have worked incredibly hard over the past two weeks and deserve to see you in this hilarious costume. It would be a perfect way to end our last lesson.

~~#3 Furthermore~~ [Furthermore], if you wear a banana costume ~~we~~ [, we] will be more engaged in the lesson. Seeing you in a banana costume will make us focus better as we will be motivated, excited ~~and~~ [, and] eager to learn.

Please consider my request to wear the banana costume as you have previously promised to wear it on my birthday. This will make our last lesson extremely memorable and keep us engaged from the ~~begining~~ [beginning] to the end of the lesson.

Kindest regards, Samuel Kang