

Section 1

#1: Opening paragraph "Hello Josh, I hope this message finds you well! As we're approaching the last class of the writing program, I wanted to remind you of the promise you made about wearing a banana costume on our final class."

Strengths:

- Your opening is polite and friendly, establishing a respectful tone with Josh
- You clearly state the purpose of your letter right away, which helps the reader understand what you're asking for

Unclear pronoun reference → When you write "I wanted to remind you," it's a bit confusing because this letter seems to be from the whole class, not just from you alone. Later in the letter, you use "we" and "we've," which shows this is a group request. It would be stronger if your opening made it clear whether you're writing as one person or representing the entire class. A sentence like "On behalf of our class, I wanted to remind you..." would help Josh understand that everyone shares this request.

Exemplar: *"Hello Josh, I hope this message finds you well! On behalf of our class, I wanted to remind you of the promise you made about wearing a banana costume during our final session."*

#2: Second body paragraph "Second, it would be a great way to build a sense of class spirit and end the course on a high note. Sometimes, education can be boring but moments like this help remind us that learning can also be fun."

Strengths:

- You explain why the banana costume matters beyond just being funny—it connects to class spirit and making learning enjoyable
- Your reasoning shows you've thought about the bigger purpose of this request

Vague support → When you say "education can be boring," this statement is quite general and doesn't give Josh specific examples from your actual experience in his class. Your argument would be much more convincing if you mentioned particular moments from your ten classes together. For

instance, you could describe a challenging lesson where everyone felt tired, or explain how Josh's teaching style has already made learning fun in other ways. This would show that you're not just making a general claim, but that you understand what has worked well in your specific class.

Exemplar: *"It would be a great way to build class spirit and end the course on a high note. Even during our more challenging grammar lessons, you've helped us stay interested, and the banana costume would be another example of how you make learning memorable."*

#3: Third body paragraph "Third, it would make this class truly unforgettable. Online classes are exhausting but a teacher showing up in a banana costume on Zoom? That's the kind of thing we'll remember, even long after the lesson."

Strengths:

- You acknowledge the difficulty of online learning, which shows you understand the challenges both students and teachers face
- Your point about creating a memorable moment is relevant and appealing

Repetitive reasoning → This paragraph says almost the same thing as your second paragraph—both explain that the costume would make the class memorable and fun. Instead of repeating similar ideas, you could use this space to add a completely new reason. For example, you might explain how keeping promises is important in building trust between teachers and students, or you could mention how this would inspire your class to keep their own promises in the future. Adding a fresh perspective would make your letter more persuasive because Josh would see different benefits to wearing the costume.

Exemplar: *"Third, following through on this promise would show us that keeping your word matters, which is an important lesson beyond writing skills. When teachers demonstrate reliability, it encourages students to do the same in their own commitments."*

■ Your letter does a nice job of being respectful and friendly towards Josh whilst making your request clear. The structure with three separate reasons is organised and easy to follow. However, your arguments could be much stronger with more specific details from your actual experiences in the ten classes. Right now, your reasons feel quite general—they could apply to any class with any teacher. To

make this more convincing, think about particular moments from your lessons that would connect to each point you're making.

Additionally, your second and third reasons overlap quite a bit, both focusing on making the class memorable and fun. When you write persuasively, each reason should add something completely new to your argument. Consider what other benefits Josh might care about—perhaps how this could strengthen the relationship between students and teacher, or how it demonstrates the importance of keeping promises.

Your conclusion wraps things up well, but it could be even stronger if you acknowledged that you understand Josh might feel silly or uncomfortable, then explained why it would still be worthwhile. This shows you've considered his perspective too. Also, try to connect your reasons more directly to specific things that happened during your ten classes together—maybe a funny moment, a difficult lesson, or something Josh said that made everyone laugh. These concrete details would transform your letter from a general request into something personal and meaningful that truly reflects your shared experience as a class.

Overall Score: 40/50

Section 2

~~Hello~~ [Dear] Josh,

I hope this message finds you well! #1 As we're approaching the last class of the writing ~~program~~ [programme], ~~I wanted~~ [our class wanted] to remind you of the promise you made about wearing a banana costume ~~on~~ [during] our final class. We've all been looking ~~forward~~ [forward] to this with excitement and curiosity, and we're hoping you can still bring the fun we've been ~~looking forward to~~ [anticipating].

#2 ~~First~~ [Firstly], we believe we've earned it. Throughout the 10 classes, we've been a well ~~behaved~~ [well-behaved] class. We've stayed ~~focused~~ [focussed] during lessons, participated ~~thoroughly~~ [thoroughly] and made an effort to contribute in discussions. Following through on the costume promise would feel like a fun reward for the effort and energy we've all brought to this class.

~~Second~~ [Secondly], it would be a great way to build a sense of class spirit and end the course on a high note. Sometimes, education can be boring~~but~~ [, but] moments like this help remind us that learning can also be fun. In online classes, it's easy to feel distracted~~but~~ [, but] something silly like this can bring everyone together, even through a screen!

~~#3 Third~~ [Thirdly], it would make this class truly unforgettable. Online classes are ~~exhausting-but~~ [exhausting, but] a teacher showing up in a banana costume on Zoom? That's the kind of thing we'll ~~remember~~ [recall], even long after the lesson. It would be a fun and memorable way to ~~wrap things up~~ [conclude the course].

Thank you again for teaching us for the past 10 days. The lessons have been fun and engaging, following [, and following] through on your banana costume promise would be perfect. We really hope you'll wear the costume, not just for the laughs, but as a reminder that learning can be fun.

Kind ~~Regards~~ [regards],

Naomi