



## 11+ Persuasive Writing — Letter to Parliament

# Student assignment — “Write a letter to Parliament persuading them that you should be the next Prime Minister.”

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Wednesday 12th August 2020

Houses of Parliament  
Westminster  
London  
SW1A 0AA

Dear Sir or Madam,

### Notes for student

- This is a great opening to a persuasive letter Amelie, well done!
- You have correctly included and structured the addresses, date and opening line. Great work!

Wouldn't it be amazing if I could be Europe's first child prime minister? Imagine what I could do.

Firstly, I would help the homeless by giving them shelter and food. A recent survey shows that nine out of ten people think this is a brilliant idea.

## Notes for student

- Well done for opening with a rhetorical question Amelie. This is great persuasion and really makes the reader stop and think.
- To improve, I think you should have added more to your opening line. Your rhetorical question is good but needs more. You should always try to be straight to the point in a persuasive letter and so you should tell the reader exactly what you want at the very beginning.
  - For example: "Wouldn't it be amazing if I could be Europe's first child prime minister? **I am writing to request that you vote for me as the next prime minister of Great Britain.** Imagine what I could do."
- You have supported your argument with a fact, well done. To improve, try to always give a reputable source (for example, '...a recent survey by The Society For The Homeless'). This makes the point you're making seem more reliable and realistic.

Furthermore, I would give money to charities, nurses, and doctors because they help people and have the best jobs, but their salaries are much lower than footballers who only kick balls around a field and score goals. Surely, you must think this is unfair?

## Notes for student

- Good use of adverbs and conjunctions to link the points in your argument together.
- You give a good argument here but try and give evidence to support it. You could have added another fact or included a counterargument here.
- You have used another great rhetorical question as well as some persuasive language. Brilliant persuasion, well done Amelie!

Moreover, I would ensure all schools across the country don't hand out homework on Fridays. This is because plenty of children's parents get



them to do housework and other schoolwork, so it is hard to fit in the homework in their schedules. According, to my research over 65% of people are more productive with their work when their schools don't hand out homework.

### Notes for student

- Another good paragraph!
- You have used a good fact and figure here but try to include a reliable source for this information. You could have said the research was from the Department of Education.
- To improve, remember to include your other persuasive techniques. Remember PARCC and RELEEFF.
- You don't need a comma after 'according'. Remember to reread your work when you have finished so you can check for small mistakes like this.

The last thing I would do is I would let them have five hours in school instead of six so they can spend more quality time with their families. Research shows that the more time children spend with their families the happier and healthier they are. Don't you think this is important?

### Notes for student

- When writing formally, try not to say "them". Be specific and say "children" instead if that's who you are talking about.
- Again you have used a good fact but try to include a reliable source for this information. Again, you could have said this research was from the Department of Education.
- Remember to include your other persuasive techniques from PARCC and RELEEFF. For example, you could have included exaggeration or repetition here.



Thank you for reading my letter, I implore you to consider my request. Surely someone as intelligent as you would appreciate how amazing it would be if I was the first child prime minister.

Yours faithfully  
Eva Radcliffe

### Notes for student

- This is a brilliant ending to your letter Amelie, well done. You have used the correct closing address of "yours faithfully".
  - Well done for using flattery here. Using flattery at the end of a letter is great persuasive as it is likely to be the most memorable part for the reader.
  - You have used repetition here also. This really emphasises and reiterates your argument. Well done Amelie.
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### Progress Plan

- Overall, this is a great attempt at a persuasive letter Amelie! You should be proud of yourself.
- Remember to reread your work at the end! This will help you catch small grammar and punctuation mistakes in your work and ensure you get the best grade possible.
- Try to include as many persuasive techniques as possible when writing a formal letter. This can be tricky but try to remember PARCC and RELEEFF and always write them at the top of your page before you start writing. This way you can use them throughout your writing, ticking them off as you go.
- As an extension task, go back through your letter and write down one sentence where you could have included each of the following in your letter: exaggeration, empathy, listing and counterargument.



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**Your work was marked by Ellie.**

**Qualifications:** 1st class English and History degree

**University:** University of Southampton

**Lives in:** Surrey

**A bit about me:** I studied creative writing and children's literature while at University, as well as the Tudors and Cleopatra. In my free time I swim, read and play Pokemon. I love to write and I hope to become a published author one day.

**This work was reviewed and approved by James Davey, The Exam Coach.**