

OET Online Writing Medicine - 6.2

COMMENTS	
Strengths:	Formatting of a professional letter
	Understanding the important points for the target reader
	Concise language
Weaknesses:	Vocabulary choice
	Grammar and sentence structure
	Punctuation

This might be an OET: C+

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Dr. G Simms
Hollerby ENT Clinic

19/02/2017

Dear Dr. G Simms

Re: Tammy Lee, DOB 14/04/2007

I am ~~referring~~ ~~referring~~ Ms. Tammy Lee, 10 years old, for urgent ENT evaluation due to hearing loss after an influenza infection.

Ms Lee was admitted, eight days ago, ~~due to~~ ~~with a three-day history of three days~~ of fever, sore throat, pain in head and legs and cough. On examination, she was lethargic, dehydrated, with a temperature of 38.9 C and redness of the pharynx. Laboratory ~~evaluation was assessed with~~ ~~showed~~ an elevation of white cell count, ESR and urea, ~~consistent with a viral illness~~. Chest Xray revealed mild lung hyperinflation, but no pneumonia. She was treated with sponge baths, intravenous fluids, ~~acetaminophen~~ ~~acetaminophen~~ and ventolin inhaler, ~~as needed~~.

~~On~~ ~~Over~~ the following three days ~~of admission~~, Ms Lee ~~had a good evolution regarding~~ ~~showed good improvement in~~ her symptoms. She was discharged on February 14th.

Ms. Lee ~~has~~ had a follow up, today, ~~with a history of being and was reported to be~~ inattentive at school, ~~with~~ difficulty for hearing her teacher and the television at home for the last two days. On examination, no blockage or abnormality were noted in the ears. Tuning fork test, ~~however~~, revealed ~~a~~-bilateral hearing loss, more severe on the right side.

I would be grateful if you could urgently evaluate and manage Ms. ~~Lee's~~ hearing loss.

Best regards,

Dr Ernani-

Commented [AB1]: SPELLING

Commented [AB2]: GRAMMAR / SENTENCE STRUCTURE:

Either:

...was admitted eight days ago with a three-day history of fever, sore throat, ...

OR

...was admitted after having three days of ...

OR

When she was admitted on..., she had had sore throat, fever and cough for three days.

Commented [AB3]: VOCABULARY CHOICE / SENTENCE STRUCTURE: "evaluation" and "assessment" mean almost the same thing, so "evaluation was assessed" does not really make sense. (it is like saying "the tests were tested").

Commented [AB4]: SPELLING

Commented [AB5]: SENTENCE STRUCTURE: note the correction made. It is more natural sounding.

Commented [AB6]: SENTENCE STRUCTURE / FLEXIBLE USE OF LANGUAGE: try not to overuse "with a history of". It fits well when discussing the patient's first presentation with symptoms that have been going on a while before treatment. However, it is also fine to write/say "she/he had" or "she/he complained of".

Commented [AB7]: This language is better mostly because, since she is 10 years old, it is likely her parents gave the doctor the information.

Commented [AB8]: GRAMMAR: genitive / possessive singular and plural with 's or 's': 's or 's' are used to signify 'A belongs to B'.

In regular singular nouns, the genitive is 's:

- the day's agenda
- the patient's symptoms

Even when a singular or proper noun ends in s, an 's is added:

- Mr. Harris's symptoms started...

CASE NOTES – Post-influenza deafness

WRITING SUB-TEST: MEDICINE

TIME ALLOWED: READING TIME: 5 MINUTES

WRITING TIME: 40 MINUTES

Read the case notes below and complete the writing task which follows.

NOTES:

Tammy Le is on the pediatric ward where you are the doctor managing her case.

Patient: Tammy Le

Address: 3 Bigsby Lane, Hollerby

Height: 135 cm

Weight: 29 kg

Date of birth: 14 April, 2007 (10 years old)

(Admission) 11 February, 2017

Complaints: Ill x 3 days: fever, sore throat; eyes, head and legs hurting, and cough. Vomited three times in last two days. Sleeping more than usual since yesterday.

Past medical history: Asthma since 7 years old - two mild attacks in last year, treated successfully at home.
Routine immunisations up to date

Medication: Ventolin inhaler as needed for asthma (rare).

Social History: Lives with parents and two siblings – brother 6 years old, sister 4 years old. Plays football twice a week. No pets.

Family history: Father – asthmatic; maternal grandmother – diabetic.

Examination: Lethargic but responding appropriately to instructions.
Skin, mucous membranes - dry. BP 118/70, PR– 90/min (both normal)
Temp – 38.9C↑
Resp: rate 31/min↑, mild wheezing
CVS: normal
EENT: pharynx red and inflamed

Lab tests: Full blood count– white cell count↑ ESR↑
Urine– dark color, urea↑ Blood glucose– normal.
Urine: protein– negative, blood- negative
Chest Xray: mild lung hyperinflation (mild bronchospasm), no pneumonia

CASE NOTES – Post-influenza deafness

Assessment: 1) Influenza 2) dehydration 3) asthma

Plan: Tepid sponge bath
I.V. fluids to rehydrate
Acetaminophen (Paracetamol) 400mg q6h for fever and pain
Ventolin inhaler two puffs q6h
Bed rest

12 February, 2017

Subjective: Headache and sore throat still. Appetite poor – refused most of supper last night and breakfast this morning.

Objective: Mucous membranes - pink, moist. Temp: 37.9C. Passing water normally
Chest – clear, resp. rate – 24/min CVS – normal Abd - normal

Plan: Encourage to eat.
Continue IV but decrease IV fluids → oral fluids
Monitor temperature q4h

14 February, 2017

Patient : Feeling well; eating normally; playing with other children on ward

Examination: Afebrile. Looks well, active and happy

Management: Discharge this morning.
Acetaminophen for pain. Ventolin inhaler as needed.
May return to school tomorrow. Maintain fluid intake
Parents to observe for return of fever or respiratory symptoms

19 February, 2017 (Follow up)

Subjective: Inattentive at school – not hearing the teacher well, and “can’t hear the TV” like siblings at home x2 days. No fever, cough, pain or vomiting

Objective: Looks well. Afebrile. Mucous membranes pink, moist
Chest, heart and abdomen –normal
Ears– no blockage or abnormality noted. Tuning fork test – decreased hearing both sides R > L

Assessment: Hearing loss - ?due to viral influenza

Plan: Urgent ENT evaluation

CASE NOTES – Post-influenza deafness

WRITING TASK

Using the information given in the case notes, write a referral to the family's ENT specialist, Dr. G Simms, Hollerby ENT Clinic, requesting urgent assessment and management.

In your answer:

- **Expand the relevant notes into complete sentences.**
- **Do not use note form**
- **Use letter format**
- **The body of the letter should be approximately 180 – 200 words**