

OET Online Writing Medicine - 5.5

COMMENTS	
Good:	Formatting of a professional letter Understanding of purpose and main points important to the target reader Organisation of information logically between and within paragraphs
Problems with:	Grammar Spelling Punctuation

This might be an OET: high C+ (mostly because of grammar issues)

Leave time within the 40-minute reading time to proofread your letter to avoid losing marks for repeated spelling/grammar mistakes

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Mr. Jared Adullah
Dietitian
Mandeville Nutrition Center
13 March, 2019

Dear Mr. Adullah,

SPACE BETWEEN PARAGRAPHS

Re: Martina Rogers, DOB 14 October, 2000

I am writing to refer Ms. Rogers who ~~has obesity~~ ~~is obese~~ with a BMI of 33.9, and needs nutrition advice for weight loss.

Ms. Rogers was initially seen in my clinic on March 5th, 2019 complaining of ~~6-months~~ ~~six-month~~ history of fatigue ~~associated~~ ~~associated~~ with snoring, and sleep fragmentation. She also complained of problems with concentration, ~~increased~~ urination, and SOB on exertion. ~~During-Over~~ the last week, her sleep has been ~~getting~~ ~~getting~~ worse, ~~making her to wake~~ and she has been waking up ~~4~~ ~~four~~ to ~~5~~ ~~five~~ times per night. This is ~~creating~~ ~~having~~ a negative impact on her job as a clerk in the department of motor vehicles. She was advised to exercise daily, and ~~to controlled-control~~ her caloric intake.

In addition, Ms. Rogers ~~has~~ ~~was~~ also diagnosed with hypertension and obstructive sleep apnoea. Her physical examination was unremarkable, except for a high BMI of 33.9, and a high blood pressure. Her ~~lab~~ ~~laboratory~~ workup only reported a high LDL. The CT scan and X-ray showed ~~no anatomical~~ ~~obstructions~~ ~~decreased lung volume due to abdominal fat~~. She was commenced on losartan, and she is also getting refer to an ENT specialist for her obstructive sleep apnoea.

Please note that Ms. Rogers has been ~~diagnosed with obesity~~ ~~obese~~ since childhood, and both of her parents are also obese. ~~Additionally, her father has type II diabetes.~~

I ~~will~~ ~~would~~ appreciate if you can provide Ms. Rogers with further nutritional advice for weight loss as a

Commented [AB1]: IDIOM: We usually say "is obese". This is more natural sounding language.

Commented [AB2]: GRAMMAR: Time as adjective vs. noun – discussing duration
Time as a noun (thing): *She complained of fatigue for six months.*
Time as an adjective: *She has a six-month history of fatigue.*

Formatted: Superscript

Commented [GT3]: A comma is used before any coordinating conjunction (and, but, for, or, nor, so, yet) if it links two independent clauses. In your sentences, you separate two series of items and no need to use comma.

Commented [AB4]: GRAMMAR: verb vs. noun vs. adjective
noun: *an increase in urination*
verb: *she drank more fluids to increase her urination.*
Adjective: *she had increased urination*

Commented [AB5]: GENRE / STYLE: You are writing to a dietitian who might not know what the abbreviation "SOB" means. If in doubt, write out the expression, e.g. "shortness of breath".

Commented [GT6]: FORMATTING: the usual convention for formal letters is to spell out the numbers zero to ten; then write 11, 12 and upward in numerals. **Exceptions** include measurements, dosages, laboratory results and dates.

Commented [AB7]: IDIOM: "to have a negative impact on..."

Commented [AB8]: GRAMMAR: adjective vs. verb
verb: *She was advised to control her calorie intake.*
adjective (describing a noun): *She was recommended/advised a calorie-controlled diet.*

Commented [AB9]: GRAMMAR:
CORRECT: passive voice - *She was diagnosed with...*

Commented [AB10]: PRIORITISATION: this information about BMI could have better gone in the first line of your letter since this is the reason you are referring the patient...

Commented [GT11]: GENRE / STYLE: in formal writing, avoid contractions (*lab, exam, can't, won't*). Instead, spell out the word.

Commented [AB12]: ACCURACY / IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Commented [AB13]: IDIOM: more natural sounding language

Commented [AB14]: GRAMMAR: "will" is only used when talking about actions planned in the future.

part of her overall management.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely,

Doctor

Words 249

CASE NOTES – Obesity & Sleep Apnoea

WRITING SUB-TEST: MEDICINE
TIME ALLOWED: READING TIME: 5 MINUTES
WRITING TIME: 40 MINUTES

You are a GP managing a young lady with complications of obesity. Read the case notes below and complete the writing task which follows.

NOTES:

Patient: Martina Rogers

Date of birth: 14 Oct, 2000 (19 y.o.)

Address: 23 Morgan Lane, Mandeville

Height: 161 cm **Weight:** 88 kg **BMI** 33.9 [normal <24.9]

First visit: 5 March, 2019

Complaints: Chronic fatigue. Sometimes wakes frequently during the night (but falls asleep quickly again). Awakened by own snoring. Shortness of breath climbing stairs. Difficulty concentrating at work.
No palpitations, ↑ thirst or urination.

Medical history: Tonsillectomy - 9 y.o. Childhood obesity. No asthma.

Social History: Lives with roommate. No alcohol, smoking. Job – clerk in the Department of Motor Vehicles.

Medication: None

Family history Mother 42 y.o. – obese, chronic knee pain
Father 42 y.o – obese, type II diabetic currently on

Examination: Obese. Looks tired. mm- pink, moist; no jaundice
RR-14/min PR-74/min BP 140/81↑
Resp – normal CVS – normal heart sounds, no murmurs
Abdomen – normal ENT – no obstruction

Lab tests: Hb – 11.3 White cells – 11 (normal) BUN – 7.9 mmol/L (normal)
Cholesterol – 7.4 mmol/dL HDL – 1.4 LDL – 4.2↑
Triglycerides - 2.10 (normal)
Random blood sugar - 6.8 mmol/L (normal)
Urinalysis - normal
ECG – normal

Diagnosis: 1) Obesity 2) mild hypertension 3)?sleep apnea

Management: 1) Advised re: daily exercise and calorie controlled diet for weight loss
2) Home monitoring of a) blood pressure and b) nightly sudden waking x 1 week
3) CT scan head/ neck 4) Chest X-ray
Follow up in 1 week

CASE NOTES – Obesity & Sleep Apnoea

13 March, 2019

Subjective : Slept poorly last week - woke 4-5 times/night. Roommate complained snoring was especially loud. Struggling at work; twice fell asleep on bus and missed stop.

Objective: BP home monitoring: min. 140/82 ; max. 148/90
CT head and neck – normal, no anatomical obstructions
Chest Xray – lungs clear, ↓lung volume

Diagnosis: 1) Obesity 2)Hypertension 3) ?Obstructive sleep apnoea (OSA)

Management: 1) Continue weight loss programme – refer to dietitian
2) Losartan 25 mg o.d.
3) Refer to ENT for evaluation and management plan for OSA

WRITING TASK 1

Using the information given in the case notes, write a referral to the dietitian, Mr. Jared Adullah, Mandeville Nutrition Center, requesting help with weight loss.

WRITING TASK 2

Using the information given in the case notes, write a referral to the ENT specialist, Dr. G Simms, Hollerby ENT Clinic, requesting assessment of obstructive sleep apnea.

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**