

OET Writing Week

Occupational English Test

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

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

Notes:

You are a nurse at a boarding school. Jake Peterson is a male student at your school and has come to you complaining of hair loss and associated depression.

PATIENT DETAILS:

Name: Jake Peterson
DOB: 17.03.2001 (18 y.o.)
Address: School: Holly House School, Brenkridge

Social background:

Student at boarding school for past 8 yrs
 Parents work & live abroad
 Father (male-pattern baldness – onset in 50s)
 Mother (depression – onset in 40s)
 Non-smoker; 20 units alcohol/wk
 Karate black belt; champion swimmer

Presenting complaint:

Alopecia – hair loss from 13 y.o.; intermittent cycles (loss and regrowth); aetiology not confirmed – various possibilities
 ?Depression

TREATMENT SUMMARY:

Mar 2014 School clinic – presented with hair loss in patches; anxiety
 ?onset – school bullying incident, Pt said 'not a major thing'
 Referral to trichology specialist

May 2014 Trichologist: no aetiology established; possibly exacerbated by stress
 Prescribed steroid cream (betamethasone dipropionate 0.05% cream 1-2x/day for 3mths)
 Personality changes, aggression + sleep loss
 Medication discontinued

2014 - 2018 No further hair loss; intermittent hair regrowth

Dec 2018 Return of anxiety and pronounced hair loss
 General health check – ↓6kg over last 2mths
 Recommended to see Dr re hair loss, anxiety, weight loss. Student reluctant, asked about natural remedies, e.g. homeopathy. Discussion re efficacy, student still keen to try

Feb 2019 No results + cost implications of homeopathic treatment (kalium carbonicum and silicea) → student ↑distress and low mood
 Problems forming/maintaining peer relationships
 Affecting sports participation

Mar 2019 Referred to school counsellor – did not attend

May 2019 Check-up: ↑ alcohol consumption, min 28 units/wk

June - July 2019 Exam time – extreme anxiety (necessary to arrange separate exam room) – ↑hair loss

30 Aug 2019 Student concerned about transition to university shortly and independent living
 Letter to university medical practice:

- monitor
- organise special exam arrangements

Writing Task:

Using the information given in the case notes, write a letter to Mrs Kullan, a university practice nurse. In your letter, briefly outline Jake Peterson's history and your concerns. Address your letter to Monica Kullan, Senior Nurse Practitioner, University of Marchbank Health Centre, Hillsdunne Rd, Marchbank.

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.

Intro	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Monitor
Timeline	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • March 2014: hair loss (anxiety) • Referred and prescribed steroids • Stopped due to personality change / aggressions / sleep • 2014 – 2018 – no further loss & intermittent growth
Timeline 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dec 2018 – return hair loss + weight loss + anxiety • Refuses steroids & homeopathy tried: no results • Feb 2019 – distress & low mood • March - Does not attend councillor after referral • May - Increased alcohol consumption • Social issues • Sports disrupted • June – July - <u>Extreme</u> anxiety • Worried about independent living + Uni transfer
Background	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mother depression* (onset 40s)

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Balding father * (onset in 50s) • Parents abroad • Sports: swimming & karate
Requests	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Monitor • Exam arrangement

Introductions

Common errors in introductions:

- Inaccurate request
- Missing information
- Too much information
- Grammar & punctuation errors – capitals, commas, relative clause, passive, possessive adjectives/pronouns

Student	Teacher
<p>Monica Kullan, Senior Nurse Practitioner University of Marchbank Health Centre Hillsdunne Rd Marchbank</p> <p>30.08.2019</p> <p>Dear Mrs. Kullan,</p> <p>Re: Jake Peterson, D.O.B: 17.03.2001</p> <p>I am writing to introduce Mr. Jake Peterson, who is a student at Marchbank school. He came to see me because is experiencing hair loss associated with anxiety.</p>	<p style="color: red;">I am writing to introduce Mr. Jake Peterson, a student at Marchbank school, who is experiencing hair loss associated with anxiety. He requires.....</p> <p style="color: red;">Purpose?</p>
<p>I am writing to introduce Mr. Jack Peterson, who is diagnosed with alopecia. He requires your monitoring and specific arrangements during exams.</p>	

<p>Monica Kullan Senior Nurse</p> <p>University of Marchbank Health Center Hillsdunne Rd Marchbank</p> <p>Re: Jake Peterson D.O.B: 17/03/2001</p> <p>Dear Senior Nurse,</p> <p>I am writing to introduce Jake Peterson, who has been experiencing intermittent alopecia, along with a possibility of depression, which the latter needs further investigation. He requires monitoring in order to provide help with his transition to university shortly.</p>	<p>Dear Mrs Kullan,</p> <p>I am writing to introduce Jake Peterson, who has been experiencing intermittent alopecia, and anxiety. He requires monitoring in order to provide help with his upcoming transition to university.</p>
<p>Monica Kullan Senior Nurse Practitioner University of Marchbank Health Centre Hillsdunne Rd, Marchbank</p> <p>30th of August 2019</p> <p>Re: Jake Peterson, 18 years old</p> <p>Dear Mrs Kullan,</p> <p>I am writing regarding Jake Peterson, a student at my school, who is anxious about going to your university and living independently. He is being referred to you today and now requires your supervision, and support.</p>	<p>Be careful – don't go looking for paraphrases when they're unnecessary. Especially in the introduction / request.</p>
<p>I am writing to refer Mr Peterson, who is a student at our boarding school. He requires monitoring and special exam arrangements due to a complaint of hair loss associated with anxiety.</p>	
<p>Ms Monica Kullan Senior Nurse Practitioner University of Marchbank Health Centre Hillsdunne Rd Marchbank</p>	

<p>30th August 2019</p> <p>Re: Mr Jake Peterson. DOB: 17th March 2001</p> <p>Dear Ms Kullan,</p> <p>I am writing to introduce Mr Peterson, who has been monitored his hair loss and associated depression and anxiety. He is starting at your University and requires your ongoing monitoring and support.</p>	<p>I am writing to introduce Mr Peterson, who has alopecia and associated depression and anxiety. He is starting at your university and requires your ongoing monitoring and support.</p>
<p>Mrs Monica Kullan Senior Nurse Practitioner University of March Bank Health center Hills Dunne Road March Bank</p> <p>30 August, 2019</p> <p>Dear Mrs Kullan</p> <p>Re:Jake Peterson, DOB:17/03/2019</p> <p>I am writing regarding Jake Peterson an 18 years old student with suspected depression. He requires monitoring and special arrangements for his up coming exams.</p>	<p>Re:Jake Peterson, DOB:17/03/2001</p> <p>I am writing regarding Jake Peterson, an 18-year-old student with alopecia and anxiety. He requires monitoring and special arrangements for his upcoming exams.</p>
<p>I am writing regarding Mr Jake Peterson, who has hair loss and possible depression. He is being transferred to you and requires ongoing monitoring, as well as special exam arrangements.</p>	<p>I am writing regarding Mr Jake Peterson, who has hair loss and anxiety. He is moving to your university and requires ongoing monitoring, as well as special exam arrangements.</p>
<p>I am writing a letter about Mr. Jack peterson, he is a 18 years old school student, who has been suffering from alopecia since 13 years and some symptoms of depression. He require regular monitoring and specific arrangements for exams.</p>	<p>I am writing to introduce Mr. Jake Peterson, an 18-year-old school student, who has a history of alopecia and anxiety. He requires regular monitoring and specific arrangements for exams.</p>

<p>Monica Kullan Senior Nurse Practitioner University of Marchbank Health Centre Hillsdunne Rd Marchbank</p> <p>30/8/2019</p> <p>Dear Nurse Kullan,</p> <p>Re: Jake Peterson, DOB 12/3/2001</p> <p>I am writing to refer Jake, 18 years old, school student, who is about to start studying at Marchbank University. Jake presented to school clinic with hair loss associated with depression and anxiety. Your monitoring would be appreciated.</p>	<p>I am writing to refer Jake, a student at our school, who is about to start studying at Marchbank University. Jake has a history of alopecia, associated with depression and anxiety. Your monitoring would be appreciated.</p>
<p>I am writing regarding Mr Jake Peterson who is going to study in your university. He is experiencing hear loss associated with anxiety and requires your continue monitoring.</p>	<p>I am writing regarding Mr Jake Peterson, who is going to study in your university. He is experiencing alopecia, associated with anxiety and requires monitoring.</p>
<p>Monica Kullar Senior Nurse</p> <p>University of Marchbank Health Centre Hilldsdunne Road Marchbank</p> <p>Dear Monica Kullan, RE: Jake Peterson</p> <p>I am writing to introduce Jake Peterson, who is a student at our school. He is concerned about his alopecia, associated with depression and anxiety. He requires monitoring his condition for further care.</p>	<p>I am writing to introduce Jake Peterson, who is a student at our school. He has alopecia, associated with anxiety and requires monitoring and special exam preparations.</p>
<p>Monica Kullan Senior Nurse Practitioner University of Marchbank Health Centre Hilldunne Road Marchbank</p> <p>30th August 2019</p>	

Re: Mr Jack Peterson, DOB: 17th March 2001

I am writing to introduce Mr Jack Peterson, who presented with alopecia and is concerned about the university transition and independent living. He requires a special exam arrangement and further monitoring.

Homework

Timeline 1 & 2. Send to: paul@set-english.com