

## **OET Nursing Writing Week**

**Piotr Nowak** 

The task is: Write a letter to a healthcare professional requesting <u>continuation of care</u> for a patient.

## **Planning**

### 10 - 15 minutes:

- Find the purpose
- Identify the case notes you will use
- Organise the case notes into logical paragraphs

## What is the situation after the above steps?

I can **focus on writing** = Perfect circumstances in which to write a letter

### Criteria:

Purpose	Content	Conciseness &	Organisation	Genre & Style	Language
		Clarity	& Layout		
Identifying	Including all	Direct and	Correct letter	Appropriate	Punctuation
what needs	vital	clear	format	language for	
to be done	information			the reader	Complexity
	to support	omitting	Use of		of sentence
express it	the purpose	irrelevant	paragraphs	Professional	
accurately in		information	with clear	tone – use of	Overall
two places:	Must be		function	abbreviations,	accuracy
	accurate	writing		technical	and
introduction		without	Intra-	terms etc	legibility
request		repetition	paragraph		
			organisation		Spelling
		using good			
		linkers	Clear timeline		



### 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 the nurse in charge in a nursing home. One of your patients, Mr Plotr Nowak, is moving to another nursing home to be nearer to family.

### PATIENT DETAILS:

Name: Piotr Nowak

DOB: 27.08.1931 (88 y.o.)

Address: Raceville Nursing Home, 27 Flemington Street, Raceville

Social background:

Widower 15yrs

Cousin 50km away (Mrs Maria Kowalski); no other family

Migrated from Poland 1949 Retired carpet layer

Likes Polish folk music

Medical history:

2011: Dx alcohol-related dementia (ARD), hepatic cirrhosis

28.06.19: Road traffic collision (RTC), fractured ribs & R humerus

Medications: Nil
Presenting complaint:

Pt with multiple health problems - requires constant nursing care

Treatment Record

26.09.2019 Admitted from acute care

Forgetful recent events

Resistive behaviour (argues, yells/shouts, pulls away from staff when attempts to guide)

Resistant to care from female nurses Refuses to walk/take meals dining room

Insists bath weekly only

Management plan

Male nurses (same carers much as possible)

Regular toileting (4hrly) Bed-bath/shower (as possible)

Meals in room/encourage dining room (d/room)

Psychological assessment

Contact Polish Welfare League (support) & contact cousin

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13.10.2019	Psychologist review
	Record behaviour (chart)
	Consistent management (staff & routine)
	Reinforce +ve behaviour (music, praise)
23.10.2019	Eating normally, still in room
	Staff contacted cousin: no contact 7yrs, says maybe visit
	Staff contacted Polish Welfare League (PWL) ~ some help available
05.12.2019	Still eats in room
	Cousin visits, Pt yells at her, she leaves upset
	Staff phone her later; she refuses visit again
02.01.2020	Behaviour: responds to firm requests, generally calmer (prefers male N)
•	Showers most days (supervised), most meals in d/room, walks there
	Often listens to music (headphones)
	Smiled today
	Again contacted cousin 'will think about it'
10.01.2020	Cousin visited - went well, says would see more if closer

# Writing Task:

Using the information given in the case notes, write a letter for transfer of care to the patient's new nursing home. In your letter, briefly outline Mr Nowak's history and ongoing management. Address your letter to Ms Ena Panozzo, Senior Nurse, Brentwood Nursing Home, Brentwood.

1. Who is the reader?	Senior nurse at a nursing home •
2. What is the reader's task?	Take over ongoing care
3. Does the reader know the patient?	No
4. Does the writer have any tasks?	No
5. Why am I writing today?	Cousin said she would see more if patient lived closer
6. Is it urgent?	No



# Plan

Introduction	<ul> <li>Patient name: Piotr Nowak</li> <li>General situation: Multiple health issues / transferring to be close to family</li> <li>General request: Ongoing care</li> </ul>
Background	Dementia & hepatic cirrhosis
	Lack of family
Timeline	<ul> <li>26/09 – admission – following accident treatment</li> <li>Summarise resistive behaviour</li> <li>Implementation of management plan</li> <li>13 /10 psychologist visit – suggestions</li> </ul>
Mid timeline	• 23/10 – 5/12 Progress / Lack of progress / Steps
Current	<ul> <li>January – improvement &amp; cousin agrees to visit</li> </ul>
Request	Repeat request: Ongoing care

Homework: submit background & request to paul@set-english.com

# Introductions

Student	Teacher
I am writing regarding Mr Piotr Nowak, who has	suffer – avoid
been suffering from multiple health conditions.	
He is moving to your <del>place</del> facility today <del>due</del> to	Purpose is clear
be near his family and he now requires ongoing	
care and support.	
I am writing regarding Mr. Piotr Nowak, who	He was admitted to the home after 3 months
was presented our facility after road traffic	of acute care. The acute care came after the
collision due to he had being ribs fracture and R	road accident.
humerus fracture. He is moving to family home, and now requires your further ongoing care	He is not moving to a family home
and monitoring.	He is not moving to a family nome
and monitoring.	Multiple content problems!
Ms Ena Panozza	
Senior Nurse	
Brentwood Nursing Home Brentwood	
10th January 2020	
Re: Piotr Nowak, DoB: 27 August 1931 Dear	
Nurse,	
Lam writing regarding Mr Newsk who was	
I am writing regarding Mr Nowak who was	
admitted to our Nursing Home on 26th Sep	
2019 due to multiple health problems <del>(mostly</del>	



cognitive). The patient is now scheduled to be transferred to you and he requires constant nursing care.	Avoid brackets  The reason for transfer?
Ms Ena Panozzo	
Senior Nurse	
Brentwood Nursing Home	
Brentwood	
02 January 2020	
RE: Mr Piotr Nowak, age 88	
Dear Ms Panozzo,	
Lam writing regarding Mr. Dietr Newsk, who has	
I am writing regarding Mr Piotr Nowak, who has been a resident at our nursing home. He is	
scheduled to be transferred to your facility in	
order to be nearer to his family, and requires	
ongoing care and management.	
ongoing care and management.	
10th January 2020	Although it is accurate it doesn't really focus on
·	the truth of the situation. What about the
Ms Ena Panozzo	family?
Senior Nurse	
Brentwood Nursing Home	
Brentwood	
Re: Mr Piotr Nowak, 88 years old	
Dear Ms Panozzo,	
I am writing regarding Mr Nowak, who is	
currently under psychological review due to	
behavioral changes. He is being transferred to	
your facility for continuation of care and further	
management.	
Ms Ena Panozzo	
Senior Nurse	
Brentwood Nursing Home,	
Brentwood	
10th Jan 2020	
Dear Nurse Panozzo,	
Re: Mr Piotr Nowak, DOB: 27.08.1931	



I am writing regarding Mr Nowak, who has been receiving care in this nursing home and is being transferred to your nursing home for ongoing care.

But why is he moving?

## Timeline

26.09.2019	Admitted from acute care
	Forgetful recent events
	Resistive behaviour (argues, yells/shouts, pulls away from staff when attempts to guide)
	Resistant to care from female nurses
	Refuses to walk/take meals dining room
	Insists bath weekly only
	Management plan
	Male nurses (same carers much as possible)
	Regular toileting (4hrly)
	Bed-bath/shower (as possible)
	Meals in room/encourage dining room (d/room)
	Psychological assessment
	Contact Polish Welfare League (support) & contact cousin
13.10.2011	Psychologist review
0.0000000000000000000000000000000000000	Record behaviour (chart)
	Consistent management (staff & routine)
	Reinforce +ve behaviour (music, praise)

Student	Teacher
On 26.09.2019 Mr Nowak was admitted from acute care due to resisting behaviour also	He was admitted due to multiple health issues – dementia / cirrhosis
following a road traffic collision.	dementia / cirriosis
Based on his behaviour Mr Nowak presented	
with forgetful events and resistive care especially from female nurses. Furthermore, he	Based on requires a following step caused by what we've discovered previously.
refused to be guided by staff walking or going	,
to dining room to take meals. Consequently, we	Furthermore – considered 'IELTS' – too
manage to provide care for him with male nurses associated with toileting every 4 hours	academic – use 'additionally'
and bed bath or shower as well as	We haven't mentioned that we implemented a
encouraging him to take meals at in the dining room.	management plan
	A combination of a lack of accuracy, missing
Additionally, Mr Nowak had a psychologist	content and some low level language errors –
review on 13.10.2019 which resulting in recording his behaviour in chart and he	gives a 'C' impression
is showing a good progress especially when he	
listen music.	



On 26th September 2019, Mr Nowak was admitted from acute care, following an accident treatment. On his arrival, he was forgetful and had a resistive behaviour, especially towards to care from female nurses. As a result, a management plan was implemented, which includes <del>compliance with</del> use of male staff, regular toileting and showers, along with having his meals in the dining area. In addition to having a psychological assessment, support from the Polish Welfare League and contact with his cousin were introduced in the plan. Following his psychologist review on 13th October 2019, a behaviour chart, consistent management and the reinforcement of his behaviour with music and praise were suggested.

On his arrival, he was forgetful and resistive, especially towards female nurses.

- Content: generally accurate & vital information included
- Very well summarised good sentence architecture
- Passive, linkers, clause work
- Very few language errors none changed meaning

Fantastic work!

On 26 September 2019 Mr Nowak was admitted into our care. He displayed resistive behaviour and resistance to care for towards female nurses. In addition, he refused to walk or even to take his meals in the dining room and he insisted to take a bath once a week only.

Consequently, a management plan and psychological assessment were initiated.

Where is the focus / detail?

We've focused more on initial behaviour than on the management plan

We need much more detail about the management plan – this is what the reader needs to know

Mr Nowak was admitted from acute care on 09/2019. On examination, it was observed that he normally forgets recent events and also pulls away when staffs tried to guide him. Apart from these, he refused care from female nurses and does not have his meals in the dining room. He also insisted on bathing once a week. However, he was encouraged to visit the toilet four hourly and have bed bath or shower when possible. He was also encouraged to eat in the dining room. On 10/2019 In October, the psychologist reviewed him and suggested that staffs should be consistent with his routine management, record his behaviour and praise him for positive behaviour.

...in September 2019

On examination, it was observed that he normally *forgets* recent events and also *pulls* away when staff tried to guide him.

I could have avoided the above tense issues by summarising:

On admission, it **was observed** that he was forgetful and **demonstrated** resistive towards female nurses.

No mention of a management plan – that would help make things clearer.



Initially, Mr Nowak was presented admitted to our facility following an accident treatment. He was having difficulties with remembering recent events, and showing resistive attitudes. , such as argument or pulling away from staff. In terms of his management plan, due to being resistant to female nurses, as much as possible the same male nurse has been taking care of him. Additionally, the patient needs to be taken to toilet every 4 hours and requires a bed-bath once a week, as well as being encouraged to eat meals in the dining room. Psychological assessment and contacting his cousin are needed for the plan as well and please note, his psychologist has suggested us to record his behaviours and reinforce positive ones, as well as providing a certain management plan.

argument – event

This is good for the reader because you are emphasising this is what is required for the nurse

It sounds like we are saying it needs to be done in the future – but they've already been done – past simple with date would be clearer.

It's easier and clearer when we move in one direction regarding tense – the past simple was the easiest solution.

On 26.09.2019, Mr Nowak was admitted due to acute care need. He was forgetful about recent events and he had resistive behaviours, which resulting in included being resistant to care from female nurses ,refusing to walk and take meals in dining room. In addition, he insisted on bath weekly. Regarding Mr Nowak's management plan. A management plan was implemented and Mr Nowak he was encouraged to eat in the dining room, regular toileting was planned, and as well as him being provided same carers and bed-bath shower as much as possible. He was prescribed psychological assessment and it was contacted with Polish Welfare League and cousin. Upon Mr Nowak's psychologist review, his behaviours was recorded and he was reinforced for positive behaviour.

which resulting in included being resistant to care from female nurses ,refusing to walk and take meals in dining room. In addition, he insisted on bath weekly.

was encouraged to eat in the dining room, and regular toileting was planned, and as well as him being provided the same carers and bed-bath showers as much as possible.

### Language:

This was recommended, not done immediately

On 26th September, 2019, Mr Nowak was admitted from acute hospital for continuation of care for his multiple health issues. , including a road traffic collision 3 months ago. He presented with signs of forgetful recent events, and resistive behavior. and refused to be care by female nurses and walk to the dining room. Additionally, he insisted to bath weekly. As a result of these, he is under the care of male nurses and being assisted in 4 hourly toileting

Mention management plan?



and bed bath or shower. In addition, meals in his room has been arranged and he was instructed to use the dining room. Due to his behavioral changes, he was reviewed by a psychologist on 13th October 2019.

Subsequently, his behavioral chart has was initiated associated as in his resulting was been associated as a significant to the second and the second as a significant to the second as a significant to the second and the second as a significant to the second as a second

Subsequently, his behavioral chart has was initiated, consistency in his routine was has managed and positive behavior has been reinforced. In addition, the Polish Welfare League and his cousin have also been contacted for support.

The psychologist assessment was part of management plan

This section is mainly present perfect – is there a reason why? It doesn't really fit here because we are talking about things which are finished at a point in the past.

In July 2019, Mr Nowak was brought to our facilities from acute care after a car accident.

During his stay it was noticed that he forgets recent events, he prefers male nurses and carers, he refuses to eat in the dining room and he likes to have a bath only once a week.

Consequently, only males were providing him healthcare assistance, the meals were offered in his room and the toileting was on regular basis. Approaching the Psychological assessment Polish Welfare League was contacted and his cousin Maria was informed about Mr Nowak's condition. Additionally, he has been encouraged to have a bath more often and to eat in the dining.

This is a bit of a problem because it sounds like his stay has finished – which it hasn't – yet!

'Subsequently' would be a better phrase here.

Additionally, there isn't much about resistive behaviour? Or the implementation of a management plan.

This section is a bit strange – why 'approaching'?



# Mid-Timeline / Current

23.10.2019	Eating normally, still in room
	Staff contacted cousin: no contact 7yrs, says maybe visit
	Staff contacted Polish Welfare League (PWL) - some help available
05.12.2019	Still eats in room
	Cousin visits, Pt yells at her, she leaves upset
	Staff phone her later: she refuses visit again
02.01.2020	Behaviour: responds to firm requests, generally calmer (prefers male N)
•	Showers most days (supervised), most meals in d/room, walks there
	Often listens to music (headphones)
	Smiled today
	Again contacted cousin 'will think about it'
10.01.2020	Cousin visited went well, says would see more if closer

Student	Teacher
Over the months, he has improved quite well. He has been responding to firm requests and looks calmer. He showers most of the time under supervision and eats meals in the dining room. In addition, he walks around the home listening to music on headphones. Please note that he still prefers male nurses, and his cousin has agreed to visit him more often if he lives closer to him.	It is a nice bit of summarising – and the language is accurate – but only discusses now and very recent past. However, don't you think we need more detail about cousin relationship? This could be included in a mid-timeline section – past simple
Mr Nowak, who is 88 year old, a widower man and has a history of dementia and hepatic cirrhosis since 2011. Currently he has been presenting with multiple health problems. He has only one cousin as a family member who lives 50 km away.	Background paragraph – is this the best place to put it? Put it before timeline or after timeline but in the middle of the timeline
His cousin was contacted to visit Mr Nowak in care home. Although the first visit was not good well, Mr Nowak was supported appropriately and resulting in making a good progress in terms of his behaviours and last meeting went well and his cousin stated that she can make more visits if Mr Nowak is closer to her.	In timelines, we must say when – timestamps  Sentence structure – a bit uncontrolled – too many ideas in one sentence. Try and stick to 3 ideas per sentence:  Although the first visit was not good, Mr Nowak was supported appropriately, resulting in making good progress in terms of his behaviour. The last meeting with his cousin went well and his cousin stated that she can make more visits if Mr Nowak is closer to her.



Despite Mr Nowak's poor progress in
December, his behavior has improved recently.
In addition to his good Firm responding to firm
requests, Mr Nowak has showers the most of
the days under supervision, eats in the dining
and he spends time listening to music.
Additionally, his cousin has visited him two time
twice. The first visit was difficult but the second
visit went well.

Are we missing 'cousin will visit more etc....' or is it being saved for the request paragraph?

Starting with 23 September until 5 December 2019 Mr Nowak behaviour hasn't did not improve. d much. He was unsettled in his cousin's company and she refused to visit him again.

Kindly note that just in the last month his behaviour has improved. ameliorate. Mr Nowak is being more compliant with the his meals, accepting to dining in the dining room, and he is also more compliant with the personal care. Mr Nowak's cousin agreed to visit him more often, as soon as he will be if he is transferred closer to her home.

- Why go from before the timeline paragraph up to 5<sup>th</sup> December?
- It's in the past, so past simple required.
- Do not use contractions

Quick review: articles / present perfect

On 23rd September, 2019, Mr Nowak had his meal in his room. As a result, his cousin and the Polish Welfare League were called for help. In December 2019, he ate in his room again and his cousin visited but she was upset when she left because he yelled at her. She was later called but she refused to visit him again.

However, on 2nd January,2020, Mr Nowak behaviour changed. He became calm and had his shower most of the days under supervision. He also ate most of his food in the dinning room. Additionally, he began to listen to music with his headphones. His cousin was called again, she was informed about his behaviour and she said she will think of visiting again. Today, she visited and said she will see him more if he lives closer to home.

Too granular – we don't specific dates of these behaviours – we need to summarise more. Be careful about 'jumping to conclusions'

This is feeling like a traditional story and not a summary of vital information for a care handover.

We're taking these dates too literally – the events didn't happen on these dates – they were just reported on those dates.

In the first month following the patient's admission, he has started to eat normally but still in his room. The PWL and his cousin have been contacted, and she told us a visit may be arranged. In December, his cousin visited, and as a result of him yelling at her, she-told said she will not visit again.

We know a visit was done – this sounds like it will be done in the future?

say + something tell + a person + about + something



Currently, Mr Nowak has a good progress, and responds to firm requests with a calmer way mostly, as well as showering with more frequency. Additionally, now he usually eats his meals in the dining room, listens to music, and he smiles. Therefore Consequently, his cousin accepted to have one more visit, and today, she came here, found the current state well and said she would see him more if he were closer.

Mr Nowak has made good progress and currently, responds in a generally calmer way....

On 23rd October, Mr Nowak's ate normally but his behaviour towards his cousin made her felt upset. The Welfare league was contacted and he received some help. In October Mr Nowak was eating well but his behaviour towards his cousin made her feel upset.

On 2nd January, Mr Nowak made improvement in his behavior was noted. He was calmer and responded to firm requests. He showered most days and walked to the dining room for meals. He smiled and listened to music. His cousin visited on 10th January and they got on well. Additionally, his cousin said she would visit him more often after the transfer would have been done.

What help did he receive? All we know is that they were contacted

It would be better to put this all as current

On 23.10.2019, The staff contacted with Mr Nowak's cousin, who has had had no contact for 7 years, and she said that she maybe might visit. Additionally, the Polish Welfare League was contacted by the staff. They were available to help for Mr Nowak.

In 2019, Mr Nowak still ate in his room. In addition, his cousin visited him but he yelled at her. Consequently, she left upset and refused to visit him again when the staffed phoned her later.

This seems a strange date!

No positive updates?



# Background & Request

Medical history:

2011: Dx alcohol-related dementia (ARD), hepatic cirrhosis
28.06.19: Road traffic collision (RTC), fractured ribs & R humerus

28.06.19: Road traffic collision (RTC), fractured ribs & R humerus

Medications: Nil

Social background:

Widower 15yrs

Cousin 50km away (Mrs Maria Kowalski); no other family

Migrated from Poland 1949 Retired carpet layer Likes Polish folk music

Teacher	Student
Regarding Mr Nowak's medical background, he has dementia which is related to a previous alcohol addiction and hepatic cirrhosis. In terms of his social background, he likes Polish folk music and his cousin Maria is the only family that he has.	Paraphrasing: Don't do it if it isn't more concise  He has dementia which is related to a previous alcohol addiction, and hepatic cirrhosis.
Given the above, it will be appreciated if you could provide ongoing care and management for Mr Nowak. Please note that his cousin Maria, agreed to visit him more often if he will be transferred nearby.  If you require any further information please do not hesitate to contact me.	Please can you provide  Conditional sentences:  'If' never goes with 'will'  If he is transferred
Regarding social information, kindly Please note that Mr Nowak is a widower, and the only family member closer to him is his cousin.	
In 2011 Mr Nowak was diagnosed with hepatic cirrhosis and dementia due to his alcohol addiction.	Be careful with including your own conclusions  – no mention of addiction
In view of the above, it would be highly appreciated if you could assist Mr Nowak and continue with our management plan implemented.	See above for more direct request – don't be too polite



He has only one family member, a cousin, who lives 50km away
not factual
He is not currently taking medication.
Based on Mr Smith's test results, we have organised a trip to an endocrinologist.
take over – probably more natural in this situation



Mr Nowak loves Polish folk music and has a cousin, who lives 50km away. from him.

In 2011, he was diagnosed with alcohol related dementia and liver cirrhosis. Additionally, he has multiple health issues. In June 2019, he had a road traffic collision, resulting in him sustaining fractured ribs and right humerus.

In view of the above, I would appreciate it if you could provide continuation of care for Mr Nowak. Please monitor his behavior changes as well as his cousin's visit.

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

Regards, RN This is not mentioned!



### Model Letter

Ms Ena Panozzo Senior Nurse Brentwood Nursing Home Brentwood

02 January 2020

RE: Mr Piotr Nowak, age 88

Dear Ms Panozzo,

I am writing regarding Mr Piotr Nowak, who is a resident at our nursing home. He is scheduled to be transferred to your facility in order to be nearer to his family, and requires ongoing care.

Mr. Nowak has a history of alcohol-related dementia and hepatic cirrhosis. He is a widower and his next of kin is his cousin, Mrs Maria Kowalski, who lives 50km away.

On 26th September 2019, Mr Nowak was admitted from acute care, following accident treatment. On his arrival, he was forgetful and resistive, especially towards female nurses. As a result, a management plan was implemented, including the use of male staff, regular toileting and showers, along with having his meals in the dining area. Following his psychologist review on 13th October 2019, a behaviour chart, consistent management and the reinforcement of his positive behaviour were suggested.

Despite Mr Nowak's poor progress in December, his behaviour has improved recently. In addition to responding to firm requests, Mr Nowak showers most days under supervision, eats in the dining room and listens to music. Additionally, his cousin has visited him twice. The first visit was difficult but the second visit went well and she said she would visit more often if he lived closer.

It would be appreciated if you could provide ongoing care and support for Mr Nowak. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you require any further information

Kind Regards,

Nurse