

### Task rubric

Write a letter to your English teacher recommending the news story you have read. Explain what you have learnt from this story and why it would be a good idea for other students to read it. Ensure you include a short summary of the news story.

#### B2 level response

Dear Mrs Nicole,

I'd like to tell you about an interesting news story I read. The title is "Danish Man Visits Every Country Without Flying".

This news story is about Thor" Pedersen, a man from Denmark, achieved something amazing. He travelled to every country on Earth without using an airplane. This adventure took him almost 10 years, and he covered thousands and thousands of miles. Thor faced difficult times, for example being threatened with a gun, or getting very sick with malaria. But he also met kind people, and even got married to his girlfriend during his journey.

I think this is a news story that my classmates should learn about because it can teach you that we can do anything if we want to! This man travelled around the whole world without much money, and I don't think many people are brave enough to do that. But this article showed me that anything is possible, and we just need to come up with an idea and believe in ourselves.

I hope you choose to include it in our next lesson.

Best regards,  
Nick

(Words: 178)

#### C1 level response

Dear Mrs Hanna,

With this email I wanted to bring your attention to an interesting news story entitled "Danish Man Visits Every Country Without Flying". I believe it would be a good idea for other students to read it too.

This news story is about a Danish traveller, Thor Pedersen, who recently completed a 10-year journey, visiting every country in the world without flying. He spent no more than \$20 a day and in order to avoid air travel, he had to rely on various modes of transportation (e.g., boats). There were times that he had to sleep outside as he wasn't always able to find suitable accommodation and he encountered various dangers like being threatened with a gun, or falling severely ill with malaria.

I think that other students will find Thor's adventure as inspiring as I did. The key reason why they should read this article is the environmental aspect. The article highlights that flying is

not the only way to travel. I strongly believe we should all become more aware of the impact of flying on the environment. People tend to ignore this problem and just catch a plane whenever it's convenient to them. Instead, they should consider other forms of transport, and this article is a great example of how to do that.

I believe that this news story offers important lessons for all students. I encourage you to take the time and read it together with your students in the classroom.

Best regards,  
Mark

(Words: 243)

## **C2 level response**

Dear Mr George,

I am writing to you this email as I would like to bring to your attention an amazing news story entitled "[Danish Man Visits Every Country Without Flying](#)". I firmly believe that your students will find the topic of the article inspiring.

Thor Pedersen, a Danish traveller, achieved a remarkable feat by visiting every country in the world without flying. His journey spanned nearly 10 years and covered about 260,000 miles. Thor's initial challenge was how to manage his limited budget efficiently. This was particularly tricky at the start of his journey, in Europe. However, as he moved to other parts of the world, his journey became increasingly challenging. In May, Thor completed his remarkable quest in the Maldives, and in July 2023, he returned to Denmark after a 33-day boat journey.

This article is very thought provoking. When you read about Thor and the obstacles he had to overcome during his journey, it makes you stop and ask yourself some valid questions about your own approach to life. For example, do I give up too easily when faced with difficulties? Am I creative enough when it comes to finding solutions to everyday problems? Am I resilient enough? My personal opinion is that nowadays people are not as resilient as they used to be, and I think this article really reminds us that we all have the potential to [become better versions of ourselves](#). This is the main reason why I believe that your students should read about this news story.

I trust that you would take the time to share the content of this article with your students because of the invaluable insights it offers.

Best wishes,  
Kathrin

(Words: 276)

## Letter/email of recommendation

### LAYOUT

Dear [Recipient's Name],

**Introduction:** Begin by stating the purpose of your letter. Refer to the title and/or topic of the news story.

**Body Paragraphs:**

- **1<sup>st</sup> paragraph:** Provide a brief overview of the news article you are recommending. Highlight the key points of the article.
- **2<sup>nd</sup> paragraph:** Respond to the task question by giving specific reasons for recommending the news story. Share any relevant context or background information that supports your recommendation.

For example, according to the task question, here are some points you may want to cover:

- Why the article is relevant or important
- How the article addresses current events, trends, or issues
- Any unique perspectives or insights offered by the article
- Potential implications or consequences discussed in the article

**Conclusion:** Summarize your recommendation and emphasize why you believe the recipient would benefit from reading the article. Encourage them to take the time to read it and consider its implications.

**Closing:** End the letter with an appropriate closure and your signature.

- Formal: Sincerely, [Your Full Name]
- Informal: All the best/ Best regards/ Love, (Your Name)

**You may personalize this template and tailor it to the specific news article and recipient you have in mind. Make sure the letter is clear, persuasive, and engaging to encourage the recipient to read the recommended article.**

## **Opinion Essay (News story)**

### **Task Rubric**

‘Everybody should be informed about the latest news’. Do you agree with this statement?  
Write an essay giving your opinion and reasons to support it. Ensure you include a short summary of the news story.

### **LAYOUT**

#### **Introduction**

- Refer to the topic in a general way
- State your opinion briefly

#### **Main Body**

1<sup>st</sup> paragraph: give a short summary of the news story

2<sup>nd</sup> paragraph: address the task question by giving specific reasons and/or examples to support your opinion

#### **Conclusion**

Sum up the main points of your opinion and make a comment about the task question (restate your opinion)