

LESSON 99
FULL BLAST
UNIT 8
WRITING & SPEAKING
Writing a Letter Giving Advice
(pg 117)

Name: _____

Class: _____

Instructions: Record your voice to answer these questions. Push on the button to record your voice.
(Please use PC or Android to answer this.)

1. Do you read advice columns in magazines? Why/Why not?

2. Do you think the advice they give is useful? Why/Why not?

D. Read this letter that Afan wrote to an advice column of a magazine and write back to him giving him advice.

My problem is that since I got a part-time job, I've stopped working out at the gym. As a result, I've gained 10 kilos. Besides the fact that my clothes don't fit me any more, I feel very self-conscious. I've always been sensitive about my weight because I take after my dad and I tend to be on the heavy side. While surfing the Net, I found a great raw food diet, which includes lots of vegetables and fruit and promises results. But when I told my mum about it, she told me to forget it. She says I need three balanced meals a day and refuses to let me cut out meat and carbohydrates. I feel helpless and don't know who to turn to for advice. I'd really appreciate your help.

Afan from Ipoh

PLAN When writing a letter giving advice, follow the plan below.

GREETING
① Use the person's first name or pseudonym.

OPENING PARAGRAPH
② Refer to the problem and say why you are writing. Use phrases like:
- I was sorry to hear that you've got problems.
- I understand what you're going through.
- I hope the following advice will help you.
- I've given your problem a lot of thought and I've come up with a solution.
- Here are some tips to help you deal with your problem.

MAIN PART (1-2 PARAGRAPHS)
③ Give your advice and make suggestions. Use phrases like:
- If I were in your shoes, I'd...
- Maybe you should / shouldn't...
- I strongly advise you to...
- How / What about...?
- One thing you can do is...

CLOSING PARAGRAPH
④ Make a final comment. Use phrases like:
- I hope everything goes well. Good luck!
- Let me know how everything turns out.
- I'm sure you'll work something out.
- There's no need to panic. You'll get over it.
- I hope I've been of some help to you.

SIGNING OFF
⑤ Use a signature ending and your first name below that.

Now, drag the phrases in the box and drop them below to complete the letter.

Going on a diet and exercising	cutting down meat and carbohydrate
workout every day	better in no time
you have to go on a diet for your health and well-being	you to get some exercise
going on a diet is not enough	make you lose weight faster
you will soon be able to fit in your old clothes again	go on a raw food diet but not allowed to

Dear Afan,

I understand how you feel; trying to _____ can make you feel helpless. Here are some tips to help you deal with your problem.

First of all, try to reassure your mother that _____. As you obviously don't want to fall out with her, I suggest meeting halfway. How about _____ without refusing them completely?

It is also likely that _____, so I advise _____. You could just do a short _____. Working out can _____, and you will feel _____!

I hope my advice will be of some help. _____ can be challenging but the positive thing is that _____.

Good luck!