

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Skill Covered: Writing

Level: Intermediate – Advanced


Aims: a) To learn about language, structure and style of writing a letter to an editor

b) To express opinion in writing form

Activity Time: 1 hour

What is Needed: Computer which has internet access

BEFORE YOU BEGIN: Log into the university network so that you can write the letter and then send it to the SSC Editor via email.



Ever have a strong opinion but afraid to speak out?
How would you like to express your opinion as strongly as
you'd like without punishment?
Instead....GREAT REWARD!!!!!!

Preparation:

This simple activity will help you express your opinion about a current event and improve your writing at the same time.

Before you write a letter to an editor, let's look at what this kind of letter is like.

A letter to the editor is a letter written by a reader of a newspaper. The reader has a strong opinion about something that he or she has read and writes a letter expressing his or her opinion. It starts with a reference to an article or something in the newspaper that caught the reader's attention. Then the writer gives an opinion and reasons.

Go to the "Letters to the Editor" section of any online newspaper for example www.bangkokpost.net/ or www.scmp.com

Browse through the letters and choose one that looks interesting.

Think about the following questions:

What topic is the writer referring to?

How does the writer feel about that topic?

Does the writer give any suggestions on what to do about the problem?

TASK:

1. Browse through current events in an online newspaper.
2. Find an article about a current event that you feel strongly about or that sparks your interest.
3. Write a letter to the editor. *Don't forget the parts of a letter to an editor: refer to a past event or article, give your opinion and back it up. Make it brief.*
4. E-mail the letter to your teacher. *Make sure you look over your letter first. Check spelling and grammar. You can use a word processor to help you.*
5. Pick up your returned letter. THEN E-MAIL IT to the editor.