Reception Staff

Mill Lane

Voten Countryside

ML1RS VCUSAIA

Washington

USA Professor Christina YU & Eric YU

Star City Centre

SCMRSA

Moscow

Russia

To NASA,  (Amazing letter structure so far, Christina! I love the address you used for you and Eric, and the fact you addressed he and yourself as ‘professor’. So fun!)

I am writing this letter to you because my brother Professor Eric YU has seen the big news that you are choosing someone new to complete the mission called ‘Dust Moon or Cheese Moon’. (aha! So entertaining) My brother is very eager to complete this mission ~~together~~ along with you. He is very scientific, and I (mustn’t) forget to inform you that my brother is a pilot, too and he works in Star City, in Russia with me. (great, I love that you’re listing reasons here) I just have to say, he is so eager and loves science, maths, the sky, and astronomy. He loves everything related to these subjects.(maybe you could add on the end here a part like, ‘and this is why he would be such a joy to take with you.’)

Professor Eric YU was quite a funny child when he was young. He simply was crazy with maths and whenever he got a new rocket set, he would go dancing around playing with them day and night. (this is so, so compelling, going right back to childhood to sow his love for science) He started believing the moon was made of cheese when he was three years old. Once he was six, he ~~still was~~ (was still) happy about what he was believing but he knew it wasn’t true. He loves the taste of cheese and wants to know what is really inside the moon.

He is now 31 years old. He has good manners and keeps all his promises and isn’t forgetful. (this is so lovely!) He also never lies and is trustworthy and can handle different situations confidently. (could you use an example of how one of these traits may be useful in space? Maybe that he will be able to remember everyone else’s responsibilities and keep order!) He also is very smiley and forgives people that have done him wrong.

He is a healthy pilot and isn’t fussy at all with how he eats and what he eats. That will be good for the mission because he will have to eat in packets. (great, I like that you’ve specified which bit of the mission this will be useful for) His immune system is strong and he barely gets sick. He has also been training for 25 months and he always runs between 10 to 12 miles each day. He is also good at handling long nights and normally wakes up at five in the morning. (great, but I think it would be more effective to go into detail about how these benefit the mission itself, just like you did above, instead of listing more and more things) But if he has long nights, he can still wake at half-past five. He is active as well and loves running, so it is great and he ~~suits a lot~~ (is very well suited) for being an astronaut.

Overall, here is a conclusion on why he should be chosen:

1. Eric is totally, completely obsessed with space, so he would like to answer his questions about space. These benefits improve space knowledge for the world.
2. He is extremely interested in what the moon is made of. (I absolutely love the adverbs ‘totally’, ‘completely’ and ‘extremely’, to show just how suited for the job he is!)
3. He has good manners, is caring, and friendly, he likes cheering people up, so he will be a good participant in the mission.
4. As you can see, Eric is very healthy and fit, so he won't get space sick.
5. I forget to tell you, he had to teach some university students when he was 14, which makes him as clear as a genius. (Don't you want to take someone who acts naturally like a genius?) (a lovely rhetorical question, and direct address! Very effective)

I believe Eric is the right person to be chosen and to be a new member of NASA. You will not regret taking him, and he is a great fan of yours, so am I.

Kind Regards,

Christina Yu

**What Went Well:**

-I absolutely loved reading this letter, Christina! You use so many fantastic persuasive techniques, such as a rhetorical question, listing, direct address, flattery and gorgeous vocabulary! This is super convincing, and I think NASA would be hard-pressed to turn it down!

-I really appreciate the fact that you chose to write this for your brother, as it gives a feeling that he is being recommended by another, giving it a sense of earnest. I also think your letter structure is fabulous, with clear addresses, and a perfect set of paragraphs, and introduction, and a sign-off. Lovely work!

-I think that the examples you used here are so wonderful, and I especially love when you tell us that he used to play with rockets when he was younger, ‘dancing and playing with them day and night’. This is absolutely charming, and the nostalgia of this example would really tug on the heartstrings of the reader. So wonderful.

**Even Better If…:**

-I would absolutely love to see you challenging yourself to use some imagery in your work, maybe a metaphor, or a simile! For example, you could say, ‘his passion for science burns as hot as the sun’. In the same way, you would benefit from using more adventurous vocabulary. You can use a thesaurus to do this, and find alternate words that are even more impressive!

-There are even more persuasive techniques that I think you could use. You could employ alliteration, repetition, more rhetorical questions, quotes from those close to Eric, imagery, hyperbole etc. Before you write, you can always write out a list of techniques you want to use, so that you don’t forget them while doing the task!

-Sometimes I feel you just need to circle back to the subject matter, so that you don’t lose focus. For example, when you list Eric’s good traits, make sure that you explain more how these would be useful on a space-

ship, specifically! This will help with your persuasion, as you are constantly reminding your reader of your aim.

Overall, wonderful work, well done!