

What I learned in cheerleading club

Many athletes have good knowledge, (wm1) sports make people grow in(rw) mentally and physically. I learned many things through my school club: cheerleading. It makes people excited and fun by our performance(pl). By spending (art) tough time improving skills, I learned so many things from (wm2) coaches and teammates.

Students build their knowledge by listening (prep) adult's experiences. I learned many things from cheerleading coaches. First one(rw) is communication. It is necessary for team sports. I can't play this sport without communication with coaches and (wm3) members. For example, I couldn't share what I have(vt) to say because I had some pride that I don't have to have. So I learned that if I don't share my feelings, they won't know what I'm thinking. The second thing that I learned is that humans are okay(rw) to(rw) not be(rw) perfect. My coaches said that perfect humans don't exist and it's okay to show your weakness. And then I tried to show everything, even my weaknesses. These new things that I learned from adults, makes me impressed and it will be helpful when I grow up.

Strong relationships make a good team and performance. I'm not able to play this sport by myself. What I learned from teammates is to never be lonely and rely on others. You can't do whatever you want and start something by yourself. For instance, there was a time that I was thinking only about myself and wasn't able to see what was going on around me. So I tried hard to see what's going on. (art) Next thing that I learned from teammates is don't be too nice to each other. To build a good relationship, you need to have a relationship where you can say anything to each other and be strict on(prepp4) yourself and others. It is important to be kind, but this leads to superficial relationships. By being strict to others, they will be stimulated and become true teammates.

Cheerleading is just not for fun. We experienced many things through this cheerleading club. These experiences build our knowledge and be thankful(we5) to coaches and teammates.

Wow, Honoka! This is a great first draft! We talked a little in the workshop about possible ways to expand on your brainstorming ideas, and you've definitely succeeded in writing in detail about various things you've learned through your cheerleading club experiences without sounding repetitive. I especially liked your honesty in writing about the "tough love" aspect of collaboration and how, by being strict with others, we can actually go beyond superficial relationships and develop more meaningful bonds.

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コメントの追加 [mb1]: Hi Honoka! Rather than "good" knowledge, maybe a phrase like "a wide range of knowledge" would help explain your idea to the reader?

コメントの追加 [mb2]: (wm1) Add a conjunction that joins two similar ideas.
HINT: a _ d

コメントの追加 [mb3]: Maybe it would be more natural to put the subject of your performances at the beginning of this third sentence, like this:

Our performances make people feel excited and have fun.

Also notice that I've added the words "feel" and "have" to make the sentence slightly more accurate.

コメントの追加 [mb4]: (wm2) Whose coaches and teammates? (Please add a word here and in other similar phrases later in your essay, for instance in the second sentence of the second paragraph.)

コメントの追加 [mb5]: I added a space between the first two paragraphs and throughout the essay.

コメントの追加 [mb6]: (wm3) Maybe "te _ m" members?

コメントの追加 [mb7]: Here is a suggestion for re-wording the end of this sentence if you wanted to include the word "okay":

The second thing that I learned is that humans are not perfect, and that's okay.

コメントの追加 [mb8]: REMOVE this comma. "These new things that I learned from adults..." is actually the subject of the sentence and "makes" is the verb, so the comma in this part of the sentence is unnecessary.

コメントの追加 [mb9]: In the next draft, switch the order of "never be lonely" and "rely on others." I suggest this because as it is the sentence could be read as "never...rely on others." If you have a negative phrase (never do...) and a positive one (do this...), then it's often best to put the negative one first:

コメントの追加 [mb10]: (prep4) Usually, we are strict w _ th someone. Correct this in the last sentence of this paragraph too.

コメントの追加 [mb11]: Nice phrase!

コメントの追加 [mb12]: (we5) Maybe the easiest way to correct this and make the sentence more natural is to use a noun that expresses the feeling of being "grateful" or "thankful."

... [1]

... [2]

You can see I've mainly used the Marking Codes from the workshop handout to help with the revisions, but I've also made general suggestions for rewording certain sentences to make them just a little more natural. If you have any questions about any of my corrections or suggestions in the margins of this document, please let me know by writing a note in the draft you return. (I've also included the Marking Codes on the next page.)

The only other general suggestion I have is to try, in the next draft, to think of a slightly more exciting title. The current title is accurate, of course, but maybe something like *Life Lessons* or *The Cheerleading Challenge* might help attract the reader's interest. You are creative, so I'm sure you can think of something even better than my suggestions!

Thank you for your effort with this Honoka, and good luck with the revised draft!

Mike
2022.8.9

In the next draft, switch the order of "never be lonely" and "rely on others." I suggest this because as it is the sentence could be read as "never...rely on others." If you have a negative phrase (never do...) and a positive one (do this...), then it's often best to put the negative one first:

"...is to rely on others and never be lonely."

(we5) Maybe the easiest way to correct this and make the sentence more natural is to use a noun that expresses the feeling of being "grateful" or "thankful."

HINT

"...build our knowledge and **gr _ titu_e**

Cheerleading Provides Life Lessons

Many athletes have a wide range of knowledge, and sports make people grow mentally and physically. I learned many things through my school club: cheerleading. Our performances make people feel excited and have fun. By spending **the a** tough time improving **my** skills, I learned so many things from my cheerleading coaches and teammates.

コメントの追加 [mb1]: Hi Honoka – As I was reading this corrected draft, I added this to make it a little clearer and more natural sounding.

Students build their knowledge by listening to the **adults** experiences. I learned many things from cheerleading coaches. First is communication. It is necessary for team sports. I can't play this sport without communication with coaches and team members. For example, I couldn't share what I had to say because I had some pride that I don't have to have. So I learned that if I don't share my feelings, they won't know what I'm thinking. The second thing that I learned is that humans are not perfect, and that's okay. My coaches said that perfect humans don't exist and it's okay to show your weakness. And then I tried to show everything, even my weaknesses. These new things that I learned from adults makes me impressed and it will be helpful when I grow up.

コメントの追加 [mb2]: This was something I overlooked in the first revision. I changed the position of the apostrophe, because I believe you are referring to many "adults" (plural). If it was one adult, the original way you had it (adult's) would be correct.

Strong relationships make a good team and performance. I'm not able to play this sport by myself. What I learned from teammates is to rely on others and never be lonely. You can't do whatever you want and start something by yourself. For instance, there was a time that I was thinking only about myself and wasn't able to see what was going on around me. So I tried hard to see what's going on. The next thing that I learned from teammates is don't be too nice to each other. To build a good relationship, you need to have a relationship where you can say anything to each other and be strict with yourself and others. It is important to be kind, but this leads to superficial relationships. By being strict with others, they will be stimulated and become true teammates.

Cheerleading is **not just** for fun. We experienced many things through this cheerleading club. These experiences build our knowledge and gratitude to coaches and teammates.

コメントの追加 [mb3]: I realized on this second check that switching the order of these words gets the reader closer to the intended meaning.

Great work with this revision, Honoka! Looking over my first draft check, I realized there were quite a few detailed corrections to make, but you've done well with all of them. I hope *you* can see the difference these changes have made in this latest version of your personal essay. I thought your new title was perfect, too!

The original order ("just not") makes it sound as if cheerleading is not fun at all! It's a very tricky point, and I overlooked it when checking the first draft.

You can see I've made a few very minor corrections in red, and left notes explaining some of them. I think they show you how editing is indeed an endless process! Thank you very much for your effort with this draft, Honoka, and I think this essay is ready to

be posted on a school blog or other similar platform. I think others would enjoy reading about this unique learning process and how there's a lot more to cheerleading than meets the eye!

You should definitely continue writing this kind of essay in English in the future, Honoka!
Best of luck with your future writing projects and studies!

Mike
2022.8.24

How to Enjoy Airplanes

Many people use airplanes to travel and work. I like airplanes because **it has (we1)** a lot of fun. I became interested in airplanes when I talked to a crew member about them on the way to **go to (rw)** Korea five years ago. I found a way to enjoy airplanes while going to the airport to see **an (rw) airplane (pl)** and search and learn about **airplanes. (pron2)**

In the first place, riding an airplane is very expensive. However, it is very interesting for me because we can see **a (rw) beautiful sight (pl)** and communicate with the crew members. Therefore, I joined an airline's mileage club. It **seems to me good (wo3)** because I can get miles when I ride an airplane, **also (ww4) it can exchange to (we5)** a boarding pass. I went to Naha, Obihiro and Sapporo with **this (pl)** tickets. The view from the sky is special because you cannot see it in daily life. It is interesting to find my house, school and Disneyland from the sky. Also, if I talk to the crew, they will tell me many things such as good restaurants, airplane's **informations (pl)**, and other things.

Enjoying airports is **the another (we6)** way. It is cheaper to enjoy than riding because **it isn't need boarding pass (we7)**. I often go to Haneda Airport to take pictures. It's a lot of fun there and I never get tired of it because there are a lot of airplanes, not only Japanese airlines. Haneda is number two **airport (rw)** in the world's airport ranking. It is very popular around the world because it has very good view **spot (pl)**, shops and a lot of interesting things. When I take **a (rw) picture (pl)**, I can make friends because there are a lot of people who like airplanes. In addition, I can learn English because I always listen to air traffic control and I often talk **(prep) another country's person**. I feel that is good for me.

In conclusion, if you travel, you have to go to the airport earlier and enjoy **ing (wf)** the airport and airplane. I will continue to look for ways to enjoy airplanes.

This personal essay was very interesting to read, Kazuma! It's great that you've added several examples to help the reader understand your experience with airplanes and airports and why

コメントの追加 [mb1]: **(we1)** Hi Kazuma! "Airplanes" is plural in this sentence, so you have to use "**t_ey**". Also, the airplanes themselves don't *have* fun, so here are some editing choices:

...because **they are** a lot of fun.

...because **we can have a lot of fun flying and learning about them.**

コメントの追加 [mb2]: **(pron2)** Maybe use the pronoun "**th_m**" to avoid repeating the word "airplanes" three times in this sentence.

コメントの追加 [mb3]: **(wo3)** To make this phrase more natural, move "good" right after "seems" – "**It seems good to me...**"

コメントの追加 [mb4]: **(ww4)** The word "**a_d**" is used to join two similar ideas in a sentence.

The word "also" is used when you want to connect the information in one sentence to the information in another sentence, as you've correctly done in the last sentence of this paragraph. Compare the uses of "and" and "also" in the example sentences below:

I can get miles when I fly on an airplane, **and** I can exchange these miles for a boarding pass. I can **also** exchange these miles for points for hotel stays or other travel purchases.

コメントの追加 [mb5]: **(we5)** You have two editing choices:

1) ...and **I can exchange them for** (a boarding pass). (active voice)

2) ...and **they can be exchanged for** (a boarding pass). (passive voice)

NOTE: they = miles in choice 2.

コメントの追加 [mb6]: **(we6)** You have two editing choices:

1) Enjoying airports is **the second way**.

2) Enjoying airports **is another way we can enjoy the airplane experience**.

コメントの追加 [mb7]: **(we7)** You have two editing choices:

1) ...because **we don't need** a boarding pass. (active voice)

コメントの追加 [mb8]: This expression is not incorrect, but maybe a phrase like "talk to **people from other countries**" would sound more natural?

you enjoy both of them. I've always thought Haneda was a terrific airport, so it was interesting to read the information you've included about it and your opinion of it. Nice work!

You can see I've made notes in the margins, mainly using the Marking Codes from the workshop Handout. (I've also included the Marking Codes below.) Try to use these codes and notes as you revise your essay. One point you'll see I've corrected a few times in your essay is the use of plural words **(pl)**, so let me try to explain:

- When you talk or write about things *in general*, you will probably use the plural, for example "see beautiful sights/sites," and not just write about one "sight" or "site." Just remember that words like "information" are uncountable and do not have a plural form.
- Remember that **"this"** is used with singular nouns and **"these"** is used with plural nouns ("**this airplane**," "**these airplanes**"). Also, when you write about plural things like "airplanes," you'll need to use the pronoun "they" as the subject of a sentence and "them" as the object of a sentence.

One final suggestion I have is about the title. How about something that will grab the reader's attention, like *Up, Up and Away!* or *The Airplane Experience*? You are good at using your creativity in writing, Kazuma, so you'll be able to think of an even more exciting title, I'm sure!

Thank you for your effort with this draft and good luck with the revision!

Mike

2022.8.9

(we7) You have two editing choices:

- 1) ...because **we don't need** a boarding pass. (active voice)
- 2) ...because **a boarding pass isn't needed**. (passive voice)

Cleared for Take Off

Many people use airplanes to travel and work. I like airplanes because ~~it have~~ **they are** a lot of fun. I became interested in airplanes when I talked to a crew member about them on the way to Korea five years ago. I found a way to enjoy airplanes while going to the airport to see an airplanes and search and learn about ~~them. it,~~

In the first place, riding an airplane is very expensive. However, it is very interesting for me because we can see beautiful sights and communicate with the crew members. Therefore, I joined an airline's mileage club. It ~~it~~ is good because I can get miles when I ride an airplane, then ~~it can~~ change **these miles** to a boarding pass. I went to Naha, Obihiro and Sapporo with these tickets. The view from the sky is special because you cannot see it in daily life. It is interesting to find my house, school and Disneyland from the sky. Also, if I talk to the crew, they will tell me many things such as good restaurants, airplane's information, and other things.

Enjoying airports is interesting too. It is cheaper to enjoy than riding because it doesn't require a boarding pass. I often go to Haneda Airport to take pictures. It's a lot of fun there, and I never get tired of it because there are a lot of airplanes, not only Japanese airlines. Haneda is number two in the world's airport ranking. It is very popular around the world because it has very good view spots, shops and a lot of interesting things. When I take **a** pictures, I can make friends because there are a lot of people who like airplanes. In addition, I can learn English because I always listen to air traffic control and I often talk to **people from other countries. another-country's person.** I feel that is good for me.

In conclusion, if you travel, you have to go to the airport earlier and enjoy the airport and airplane. I will continue to look for ways to enjoy airplanes.

Great work with this revision, Kazuma! You've included a more creative title and corrected nearly all of the mistakes with the plural forms that I mentioned in my first draft comments. There was a lot to work on, so I appreciate your effort. I hope you can see the difference these changes make, too! This completed essay is very clear and all of your interesting ideas are easy for the reader to understand now.

I just corrected a few minor points in red, so please have a look at those while re-reading the notes from the first draft.

Overall, you have done a great job with this essay, though I know it was not easy for you to get started, Kazuma. I hope that you can post this on a school blog so that your classmates can read about your unique experiences and thoughts about air travel!

I also hope you continue writing in English and wish you the best of luck with your future studies!

Take care!

Mike

2022.08.24

Throughout my life, I have had many hobbies like dancing and listening to music, but there is one thing I have loved since I can remember: drawing. When I was young, I always found joy in drawing my family and friends and showing my work to my parents because they would compliment me. Every time my parents said that my drawings **are(vt1)** great, it tempted me to draw more. After I moved to Japan at the age of six, I started copying anime style characters to improve the precision of my drawing skills. When I was 14, I began drawing real people with only pencils, which I found very exciting and challenging. I felt joy showing other people how my art improved each time. Drawing my favorite characters and people, and the motivation to show my work kept me drawing more and more.

コメントの追加 [mb1]: **(vt1)** Hi Kylie! This is tricky, but I think because the sentence essentially refers to the past and you're using reported speech, it would be best to **use the past tense** here.

Other than the fascination **of(prepp2)** showing my art, drawing has **good effects** on me. It helps me concentrate and relieve stress. No matter what I do, I have a hard time concentrating. Not only homework, but I get sidetracked when I'm doing things that I enjoy. I sometimes get exhausted from that. However, drawing could keep me focused for hours. The closer I get to finishing **my** drawing, the more it motivates me to keep on. It feels relaxing to focus on something for a long period of time, so I never get tired of working on a new drawing.

コメントの追加 [mb2]: **(prepp2)** In this case, "fascination **w_th**" would be best. It's a more common combination of words.

コメントの追加 [mb3]: This is not wrong, but maybe the phrase "**a positive effect**" would sound a little more natural? I've suggested using "effect" in its singular form because you are referring to the "overall" influence or impact that drawing has on you.

Every time I draw, there's some improvement. **However, there are still many fixes I could make.** When I feel more confident about my drawings, I would like to try drawing with color. I don't want drawing to be my job because I like drawing at my own pace. On the other hand, it would be wonderful if I could sell some of my best drawings.

コメントの追加 [mb4]: This is not wrong either, but in this particular context, I would go with "finishing **a** drawing" – meaning "one of" my drawings.

Kylie, this was a joy to read! You've definitely expressed your experience with, and feelings about, drawing in a way that is immediately accessible for the reader. It helps that you have an effortlessly natural "authorial voice," since this goes a long way in setting the right tone for this type personal writing. Referring back to the workshop, this resulting tone allows you to be a "good host," welcoming the reader into the essay as though you were serving them a nice cup of tea and starting a casual conversation with them!

コメントの追加 [mb5]: Maybe "improvements"? OR, you might also consider changing the entire sentence to help reinforce the colloquial tone of this essay by writing something like "**However, there's always room to improve**" or "**...there's always room for improvement.**"

Since editing is an endless process (!), in addition to the margin comments above, I have a few minor suggestions to consider as you revise this draft:

- ☺ Can you think of **an expressive title** for your next draft? Use your creativity!
- ☺ In the closing paragraph, you have a few different ideas going, all of which are quite interesting. Still, maybe in terms of cohesion, it would help if you fleshed one of these ideas out a bit – for instance, by explaining *why* you would like to try drawing in color.
- ☺ I feel like the closing paragraph, and the essay, deserves a stronger final sentence. Maybe adding a deeper reflection of some kind would help? For instance, maybe something about what would be lacking from your life if drawing were sadly taken out of the equation? This is just a rough idea, though. See what you can come up with and we'll go from there in the next draft.

If you have any questions about my corrections, comments or suggestions, please let me know by leaving a note in the next draft you submit. I've used a couple of the Marking Codes from the workshop handout, but I've also included the codes for your reference below. Thank you for your effort with this draft, Kylie, and good luck with the revision!

Mike
2022.8.10

My Lifelong Partner

Throughout my life, I have had many hobbies like dancing and listening to music, but there is one thing I have loved since I can remember: drawing. When I was young, I always found joy in drawing my family and friends and showing my work to my parents because they would compliment me. Every time my parents said that my drawings were great, it tempted me to draw more. After I moved to Japan at the age of six, I started copying anime style characters to improve the precision of my drawing skills. When I was 14, I began drawing real people with only pencils, which I found very exciting and challenging. I felt joy showing other people how my art improved each time. Drawing my favorite characters and people, and the motivation to show my work kept me drawing more and more.

Other than the fascination **about with** showing my art, drawing has **good** a positive effects on me. It helps me concentrate and relieve stress. No matter what I do, I have a hard time concentrating. Not only homework, but I get sidetracked when I'm doing things that I enjoy. I sometimes get exhausted from that. However, drawing could keep me focused for hours. The closer I get to finishing **my a** drawing, the more it motivates me to keep on. It feels relaxing to focus on something for a long period of time, so I never get tired of working on a new drawing.

Every time I draw, there's some improvement. However, there are still **things to work on and challenges to take up. many fixes I could make.** When I feel more confident about my drawings, I would like to try drawing with color. If I use colors in my drawings, they could be much different from my black and white ones. I don't want drawing to be my job because I like drawing at my own pace. On the other hand, it would be wonderful if I could sell some of my best drawings. To make this come true, I will keep on drawing as much as I can.

コメントの追加 [mb1]: I've used this instead of my initial suggestion of "room to improve" to avoid the "improvement" – "improve" repetition in these two sentences.

I couldn't figure out how to organize the conclusion.

Kylie, this revision looks great, and I think **you've actually done well with the conclusion** by following advice to write in a little more detail about experimenting with color in your drawings and by ending with a reflective sentence about how you hope to achieve this goal. I thought the metaphorical title was also an excellent choice!

I've just made a few additional changes/suggestions in red, the majority of which were mentioned in the margin comments of your checked first draft. Reading this latest version I still thought those changes would help with the style and flow, so I stuck with them.

Thank you very much again for your effort with this essay, and I hope you're able to post it on the school blog or some similar platform so others can read about and enjoy your unique perspective on this hobby.

Keep writing in English, Kylie, and best of luck with your present and future studies!

Mike

2022.08.24