

Fly Persuades Toad

a fun letter exchange written by Matthew & Sean, fourth grade writers



Dear Toad,

Mr. Toad, it's almost spring and I feel nervous about you and I both going to the lake at the same time. So I'm sending this letter to set things straight! Here's my letter on why you should not eat me!

First things first, of course I look appetizing but don't you like dragonflies better? If you don't, you should because they're good. Or just eat some fish. I have six thousand kids to feed, plus my friend ate his arm off and he said we taste horrible. True story. Sadly, now he's in the hospital.

Now back to our conversation, we should make a schedule to let us know when we're allowed to go to the lake. We should because it's safer, it's better, and I won't have to worry about getting eaten. Anyways, it's more safe. That's for sure! I hope you like this idea.

Thirdly, flies these days are very wealthy and if they die, all that money goes into your stomach, and then we become a very poor city and that means there's a very good chance that we will be extinct in less than ten years.

The fourth and last thing I want to tell you is that you are a very good person. You better watch out for kids these days, they like to catch frogs. Also, they like to catch tadpoles too. I'm just saying, trust me.

Thank you for listening to all my very good reasons why you should not eat me and, for the last time, no eating us!

Sincerely the begging and eye balling fly,

Fly (written by Matthew)

Dear Fly,



Now that it's even closer to spring, I have to go hunting for food like you. Your letter was a success and I am going to tell you why with quite a few good reasons, so listen up or I might change my mind.

First off, I actually don't like eating you. You taste horrible, no offense, and once my friend got sick of eating you and he ate his foot. It turns out we taste better than you. Sadly, now he has not right foot and has moved on to eating math books.

Secondly, I am very fond of the schedule idea you came up with. That way if we feel like being alone on a certain day, we can. Also, since I have 20 kids to feed, I wouldn't mistake you for a dragonfly or a small fish, and that is why I think it is very safe to have a schedule.

Thirdly, I would just like to say to your friend, get well soon and tell him not to eat his arm off again! Also, you should tell your kids to look both ways before running, flying out onto the street because about one thousand almost got hit by a transport truck.

Your new and agreeing friend,

Toad (written by Sean)

Look carefully over these two letters. Where does each letter show its best persuasive technique? Be prepared to share your answer with the whole class!

Devon Wants a Puppy

a fun letter exchange written by Devon & Liam, fourth grade writers



Dear Parents,

I'm turning ten, so can I please have a puppy? I'm a very responsible kid and I really think I'm ready for this. Oh, by the way, this is just the introduction. There are more persuasive reasons why I deserve to get a puppy. So beware!

First of all, I will clean up its poop so you guys don't need to. Taking it for walks would be no problem. It would be my pleasure to give the puppy a bath and clean its bed, if needed. I'm sure it would be lots of fun.

Second of all, it would be lots of fun to take the puppy up to our amazing camp in Sussex. You would like him there because he could guard our trailer. There would be lots of space for him to run around with me. I bet you that it would like to visit all the other dogs there. I would teach him not to fight with them.

Thirdly, I will tell you what I will do with or for the puppy. Be sure I would take it for walks and change its kennel. Giving it baths would be a whole whack of fun. I would groom it until it looked very handsome or very beautiful! To pay for its food, I would get a job. Loving it would be the best thing I'm good at.

In conclusion, I sure hope you get me a puppy. I really love puppies, and I've always wanted one. I'm very caring, and when it comes to puppies, I'm really responsible! That's why I want one.

Love your desperate for a puppy son,

Devon

P.S. If you don't get me one, get ready to pack and move to a different country.

Dear Devon,

You're right. You are ten and very responsible, but I just don't think you should have a puppy. Some can grow to be taller than you.

First, you have hockey and karate, so you won't have much playing time. Puppies need to play to have exercise. If you can get lots of time, then I might say 'yes.'

Second, where will you keep the crate? I do think it is great you offered to clean the crate. There isn't enough room inside the house. We cannot keep him outside. If you know where we can keep him, tell me when you write back.

Third, what if Mr. Puppy has to go "poo poo" on the way to Sussex? Worst, he might go pee without warning! Do you know what that could do to our seats? If we didn't stop, you'd be in a wet smelly seat for awhile.

Fourth, you can't get a job. You're ten! If you could, it wouldn't be near here. To get a job, you have to be like fifteen years old. I don't think you're allowance can cover food, toys, and a kennel. That would be lots of money.

Well, you put a lot of effort into your letter. I'm afraid I have to say, "No!" Just kidding. You can have a puppy, under a few conditions. One, you have to buy his or her food. Two, make sure you play with it lots.

Your totally convinced and loving parents (written by Liam)



Look carefully over these two letters. Where does each letter show its best persuasive technique? Be prepared to share your answer with the whole class!