Writing sub-test
Medicine
Sample Test

Please print in BLOCK LETTERS

Candidate number

Family name

Other name(s)

City

Date of test

Candidate's signature

YOU MUST NOT REMOVE OET MATERIAL FROM THE TEST ROOM

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© Cambridge Boxhill Language Assessment – Sample Test (2010)
Read the case notes and complete the writing task which follows.

**Notes:**

**Patient:** Anne Hall (Ms)

**DOB:** 19.9.1965

- Height: 163cm
- Weight: 75kg
- BMI: 28.2 (18/6/10)

**Social History:**
- Teacher (Secondary – History, English)
- Divorced, 2 children at home (born 1994, 1996)
- Non-smoker (since children born)
- Social drinker – mainly spirits

**Substance Intake:** Nil

**Allergies:** Codeine; dust mites; sulphur dioxide

**FHx:**
- Mother – hypertension; asthmatic; Father – peptic ulcer
- Maternal grandmother – died heart attack, aged 80
- Maternal grandfather – died asthma attack
- Paternal grandmother – unknown
- Paternal grandfather – died ‘old age’ 94

**PMHx:**
- Childhood asthma; chickenpox; measles
- 1975 tonsillectomy
- 1982 hepatitis A (whole family infected)
- 1984 sebaceous cyst removed
- 1987 whiplash injury
- 1998 depression (separation from husband); SSRI – fluoxetine 11/12
- 2000 overweight – sought weight reduction
2002 URTI
2004 dyspepsia
2006 dermatitis; Rx oral & topical corticosteroids

18/6/10
PC: dysphagia (solids), onset 2/52 ago post viral (?) URTI
URTI self-medicated with OTC Chinese herbal product – contents unknown
No relapse/remittent course
No sensation of lump
No obvious anxiety
Concomitant epigastric pain radiating to back, level T12
Weight loss: 1-2kg
Recent increase in coffee consumption
Takes aspirin occasionally (2-3 times/month); no other NSAIDs

Provisional diagnosis: gastro-oesophageal reflux +/- stricture

Plan:
Refer gastroenterologist for opinion and endoscopy if required

Writing task:
Using the information in the case notes, write a letter of referral for further investigation and definitive diagnosis to the gastroenterologist, Dr Jason Roberts, at Newtown Hospital, 111 High Street, Newtown.

In your answer:
- expand the relevant notes into complete sentences
- do not use note form
- use letter format

The body of the letter should be approximately 180-200 words.
Dr Jason Roberts  
Newtown Hospital  
111 High Street  
Newtown  

(Today’s date)  

Dear Dr Roberts  

Re: Ms Anne Hall, DOB 19.9.1965  

Thank you for seeing Ms Hall, a 44-year-old secondary school teacher, who is presenting with a two-week history of symptoms of dysphagia for solids, epigastric pain radiating posteriorly to T12 level, and concomitant weight loss. The symptoms follow a constant course.  

Ms Hall believes the problem commenced after an upper respiratory tract infection two weeks ago for which she self-prescribed an over-the-counter Chinese herbal product with unknown ingredients. However, she has also recently increased her coffee consumption and takes aspirin 2-3 times a month. She has a history of dyspepsia (2004), and dermatitis for which she was prescribed oral and topical cortisone. There are no apparent signs of anxiety. She has not smoked for the last 15 years. She drinks socially (mainly spirits), has a family history of peptic ulcer disease and is allergic to codeine. Her BMI is currently 28.2.  

My provisional diagnosis at this point is gastro-oesophageal reflux with possible stricture. I am therefore referring Ms Hall to you for further investigation.  

Thank you for assessment and ongoing management of this woman. If you require any further information, please do not hesitate to contact me.  

Yours sincerely  

Doctor