

LO- To recognise and identify the features of a persuasive letter.

My dear godson,

Thank you for your letter. It was lovely to receive your Christmas wish list although I feel I need to write to you urgently to explain why your number one request for a pet monkey will definitely remain a wish, rather than become a reality. Apart from the fact I would have no idea where on earth to buy a pet monkey from, I have several concerns regarding keeping a monkey as a pet.

In the first place, monkeys are wild animals. They are very active and energetic mammals that need lots of exercise and outside space. They adore climbing trees and swinging off branches. Your garden is just not big enough. I also fear your dad would not approve of a primate using his vegetable patch as a playground!

Secondly, a monkey is a social creature. It is used to living as part of a large family group, surrounded by siblings, cousins, aunts and uncles because they look for food together, eat together and groom and play together. Although genetically, we are closely related to monkeys, they are NOT our cousins. Even though you would show it kindness, it would desperately miss the company of other monkeys and be very sad.

Thirdly, there is the cost to consider. Have you any idea what vaccinations a monkey might need? What if it became ill or injured? Who would pay the vet's bills? Furthermore, there is the cost of feeding it; you can't give a monkey a tin of dog food. It would need nutritious, specialist monkey food: not something readily available from the supermarket or pet shop!

I hope I have explained to you why having a pet monkey is probably not a good idea and that you understand my reasons for not buying you one. I know you are an animal lover and would hate for any of your pets to be unhappy. I am still open for suggestions though... How about a goldfish or a guinea pig?

I look forward to your next letter.

Your loving godfather

Xxx

Can you use the key below to highlight the features of this persuasive letter?

Clear introduction		Causal conjunctions	
Argument being made		Rhetorical questions	
Evidence to support the argument.		Conclusion	
Fact		Opinion	

Can you see any examples of emotive language?

.....

.....

.....