

## WRITING SUB-TEST – TEST BOOKLET

### INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES

You must write your answer for the Writing sub-test in the **Writing Answer Booklet**.

You must **NOT** remove OET material from the test room.

## Occupational English Test

**WRITING SUB-TEST: OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY**  
**TIME ALLOWED: READING TIME: 5 MINUTES**  
**WRITING TIME: 40 MINUTES**

Read the case notes and complete the writing task which follows.

### Notes:

**Assume that today's date is 30 August 2019**

Mr Rodney Simpson was diagnosed with multiple sclerosis in 2002. You are conducting a home assessment.

#### PATIENT DETAILS:

**Name:** Mr Rodney Simpson  
**DOB:** 22 Dec 1966  
**Address:** 24 Field St, Newtown  
**Diagnosis:** Secondary progressive multiple sclerosis (MS)  
**Social background:** Retired 2007 (due to MS), senior bank executive  
Wife works full-time, four adult offspring  
**Medication:** Quetiapine fumarate (Seroquel) 25mg b.d.  
Sertraline hydrochloride (Zoloft) 200mg nocte  
Diazepam (Valium) 5mg nocte  
Lioresal (Baclofen) 37.5mg nocte  
Paracetamol p.r.n.

#### Past medical history:

<b>2002</b>	Diagnosis (Dx): relapsing remitting MS Hospital 5 days
<b>2002-2007</b>	MS mostly uneventful
<b>2010</b>	Mobilising with elbow crutches
<b>2011</b>	Mobilising with walking frame
<b>2012</b>	Dx: secondary progressive MS Mobilising with manual wheelchair
<b>2014</b>	L-sided paralysis Mobilising with motorised wheelchair. Supra pubic catheter
<b>2015</b>	Dx: legally blind (can still see an object at a 6-metre distance)
<b>2017</b>	Non-weight bearing. Hoist transfer at all times
<b>06 March 2019</b>	Fall, compressed fracture T11, fracture lower 4 R ribs Open reduction internal fixation surgery T9-L1, bone grafts, inpatient 7 wks, rehab 2 wks
<b>12 May 2019</b>	OT home assessment. Evaluated hoist, shower chair/commode, rails, ramp doorways, etc. Bed ok, to review 3-4 mths when new funding available Community support: shower – x2 carers, respite

**30 Aug 2019:** Managing reasonably well with carers x3 per day (2 for shower in morning, 1 for bedtime at night)

**Home visit:** Wife concerned bed is inadequate – lack of flexibility for posture, old bedside rails, side assistance bar, etc. Elevation available – head of bed only

Wife requested immediate replacement of Pt's current bed with high-low bed

Pt suffers from back & neck pain, esp. end of day – paracetamol for relief, bedtime

Reports difficulty maintaining upright posture whilst sitting (major issue)

**Physical examination:**

Leans over to R by ~ 30°. Straightens by pushing R hand against arm rest  
Pt has L-sided weakness, nil contractures. Uses R hand to control joy stick of wheelchair, mobile phone & for feeding

Muscle strength: R – Grade III throughout; L – Grade II. Uses L hand passively with help of R hand

**Regular treatment:**

Exercises daily with physio/carer/wife. Discussed – Pt's need to pace activities & rest as required

**Plan:** New high-low floor-level bed, with head and knee elevation, will aid positioning & remove need for cot-sides while Pt unattended

Bed trial for 2 wks. Application process explained. Review when bed on site.  
Contact wife re times, dates, etc.

Expected in 1-2 wks

**Writing Task:**

Using the information given in the case notes, write a letter to Mr Simpson's local doctor, Dr Williams, updating him with your assessment and request support for a funding application for the new bed. Address the letter to Dr Ben Williams 400 Rail Rd, 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.**

Any answers recorded here will not be marked.

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**Occupational English Test****WRITING SUB-TEST: OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY  
SAMPLE RESPONSE: LETTER**

Dr Ben Williams  
400 Rail Rd  
Newtown

30 August 2019

Dear Dr Williams

Re: Mr Rodney Simpson  
DOB: 22.12.1966

I am writing to update you on my work with your patient Mr Rodney Simpson, who has secondary progressive multiple sclerosis, and to request your assistance in procuring a new bed for him.

Mr Simpson's right-sided strength is Grade III, the left, Grade II. His left-sided paralysis is a major inhibitor and it is a strain for him to support himself adequately in his chair. He displays a 30° lean to the right, but self-corrects his posture by pushing with his right hand against the arm rest of his chair. He has difficulty maintaining this position. He requires paracetamol for back and neck pain most evenings.

Mr Simpson's wife has requested a new bed due to the limitations of his current bed. The recommended bed is a height adjustable floor-level bed with head and knee elevation. The head and knee elevation will improve Mr Simpson's comfort and support his posture and positioning in bed. The bed can be lowered to floor level when Mr Simpson is unattended in the bed, removing the need for bed rails (cot-sides).

We are keen to replace Mr Simpson's bed as soon as possible. Your support for our application for funding would be greatly appreciated.

Your sincerely

Occupational Therapist