# Exercise on “Perfecting Your Content”

Dear Mrs. Li,

I hope you are keeping well, it has been a few months since we worked together on Yodel’s APIs. I think the APIs are great, although I do know the adoption rates disappoint. On that note I do think if we had really strong documentation our API adoption rates are likely to increase. So I am emailing with some ideas about improving our API documentation.

To begin, studies show that API documentation is critical to increase API adoption. For example, SmartBear’s report on APIs (<https://idratherbewriting.com/blog/smartBear-2020-state-of-api-docs-review/#report-overview>) finds accurate and thorough documentation to be the second-most-important feature of APIs, preceded only by ease of use.

As it stands now, our documentation is modelled after Yelp’s documentation—we have a description of each endpoint and some sample code. However, after reviewing other documentation, we could distinguish our API by adding additional features, such as: comprehensive overviews, interactive test calls (in multiple languages and return types), and a great looking interface. For example Zoom’s API documentation (<https://marketplace.zoom.us/docs/api-reference/zoom-api>) uses a documentation tool called Stoplight to deliver excellent documentation. I think it’s entirely reasonable that we could use Stoplight (or another comparable tool) to develop documentation that is far superior to Yelp’s documentation giving us a competitive edge.

In closing I think excellent documentation is the solution to improve our API adoption rates; and I would be interested in being involved in this documentation project. Please let me know if you would like to meet to discuss it further. Thanks.

--Your Name