

Protest letter



Read this **letter** from the *Letters to the Editor* section of a local **newspaper**, then answer, in **complete sentences**, the following questions.

Sir,

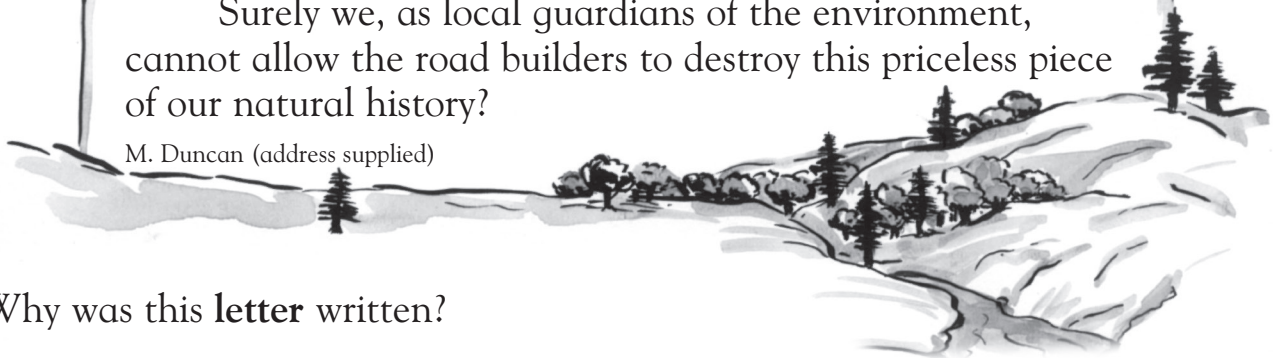
I wish to protest, on behalf of the B.B.G. (Ban the Bypass Group), about the proposed building of a road through Birnam Wood, which was reported in last Friday's *Dunsinane Express*.

The loss to the public of this local beauty spot and the damage to the wildlife that depends upon it would be huge.

The wood has been allowed to grow and flourish, largely undisturbed by man, for almost one thousand years.

Surely we, as local guardians of the environment, cannot allow the road builders to destroy this priceless piece of our natural history?

M. Duncan (address supplied)



Why was this **letter** written?

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In which **paragraphs** does the writer give reasons for his protest?
What are his reasons?

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Why does the writer end with a **question**?

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Do you think this **letter** will help stop the wood from being destroyed? If yes, how? If no, why not?

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Plan an argument

Do you support or disagree with the *Protest letter* in the previous exercise? Gather together some **facts**, **opinions**, and **persuasive** words so that you can plan your own **letter**. It may help to look in **reference books** or on the **Internet**. Make some **notes** here.

Facts about trees and the environment

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My opinion and feelings



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Useful words to persuade people

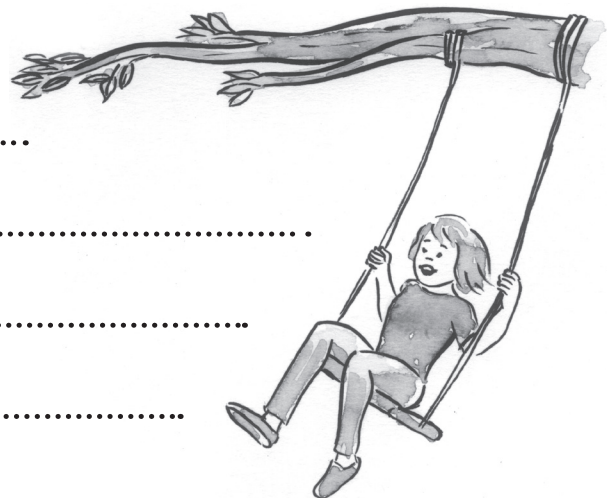
Greed, devastation,

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Letter to the newspaper



Read over your **notes**, then write your own **letter** to the newspaper about the bypass discussed in the *Protest letter*.



(your address)

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(date)

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The Editor
Dunsinane Express.

Dear Sir,

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Yours faithfully,

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Protest letter



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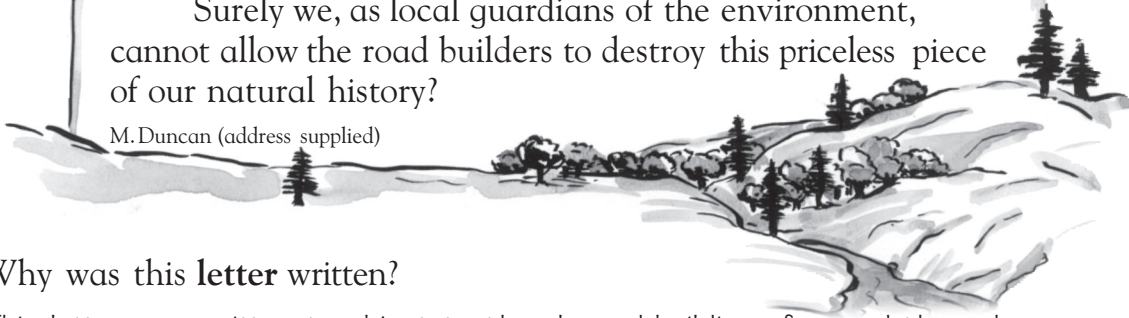
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Surely we, as local guardians of the environment, cannot allow the road builders to destroy this priceless piece of our natural history?

M. Duncan (address supplied)



Why was this **letter** written?

This letter was written to object to the planned building of a road through
Birnam Wood.

In which **paragraphs** does the writer give reasons for his protest?
What are his reasons?

In paragraphs 2, 3, and 4 the writer sets out the environmental issues that
form the reasons for his protest.

Why does the writer end with a **question**?

The writer ends with a question to make people think about the issue, but
he expects people to agree with him.

Do you think this **letter** will help stop the wood from being destroyed? If yes,
how? If no, why not?

Answers may vary

The questions on this page help your child to assess and debate an argument. Discuss both sides of the argument with your child, and help him or her to decide whether or not the protest will be successful.



Plan an argument

Do you support or disagree with the *Protest letter* in the previous exercise? Gather together some **facts**, **opinions**, and **persuasive** words so that you can plan your own **letter**. It may help to look in **reference books** or on the **Internet**. Make some notes here.

Facts about trees and the environment

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My opinion and feelings



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Useful words to persuade people

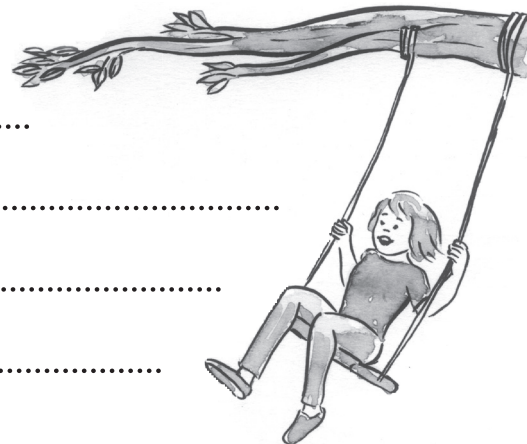
Greed, devastation,

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On this page, your child prepares notes that will help him or her present a persuasive argument. The notes should be brief and need not be in complete sentences. Once your child has written the notes, discuss his or her opinions.

Letter to the newspaper



Read over your **notes**, then write your own **letter** to the newspaper about the bypass discussed in the *Protest letter*.



(your address)

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(date)

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The Editor
Dunsinane Express.

Dear Sir,

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Yours faithfully,

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Answers may vary

This writing activity takes the form of a formal letter aimed at a specific audience. Your child should use the notes he or she made earlier as a guide. Discuss the effectiveness of your child's presentation of the argument, and praise his or her efforts.