

Answering Strategy

1. Text type and format – You are asked to write an email to your teacher. At the beginning, you should address your teacher with 'Dear Miss Chan' and end your email with a semi-formal complimentary close like 'Best regards, Chris Wong'.
2. Genre – It is a descriptive and expository writing. You are expected to provide information about your friend as well as explain certain ideas in the poem in order to help Miss Chan to assess your work.
3. Language and formality – Since the target reader of the email is the writer's teacher, the language and tone should be polite and formal. Be straightforward in the email. You should also be humble since you are seeking advice and suggestions from her.
4. Organisation – You should greet Miss Chan at the beginning of the email. In the first paragraph, state your purpose of writing. In the main body, tell her what has happened to your friend, and explain the content and techniques you adopted in the poem. Then, ask for her advice and express your gratitude for her help. End the email with your name or signature.
5. Topic and vocabulary – The theme of this email is English poetry writing. You should have enough relevant ideas and vocabulary items for this topic. You can refer to the following ideas and vocabulary items.

Useful vocabulary items and expressions

Verbs / verb phrases

alienate	使疏遠
allude to	暗指
avoid	避免
confront	面對
convey	傳達
depict	描述
dishearten	使氣餒
have one's back	支持某人
surmount one's obstacle	克服困難

Nouns / noun phrases

adversity	逆境
despair	絕望
doldrums	憂鬱
episode of depression	抑鬱發作
eye contact	眼神接觸

glimpse	一瞥
mood	情緒
raw nerve	痛處
sigh	歎氣
turmoil	混亂

Adjectives

downbeat	悲觀的
inner	內心的
inspiring	激勵人心的
worthless	無價值的

Others

albeit	儘管
critical of	挑剔的