

It is with great pleasure that I write to recommend your selection of Mr. Drew Sparkman as an English teacher for the International Baccalaureate program. I have had Mr. Drew as my teacher for two years, and I can say that he has been fully committed to his students' success both emotionally and academically.

I came to study at SEK Budapest International School in Budapest with a very limited background in English, as I had not taken high level English back in Yemen because the options provided were very limited. With the help of Mr. Drew, I can say that I have truly enhanced my understanding and use of English. My knowledge in English has progressed a great deal since coming to SEK Budapest International School, and this has helped me in other subjects such as the Extended Essay and all the other written tasks required by the IB, and I can say that is the case for the other students as well. Mr. Drew is so committed to his students' success that we would always have time to visit him and clarify our questions as well as send emails to get answers at any time. His multiple strategies to communicating and delivering the lessons (verbally, videos, activities) helped us understand the whole concept clearly and be able to analyze and criticize instead of just memorizing questions and books. The latter is what happens with most professors, and sadly that is not the learning outcome we thrive. Throughout our studies, we analyzed linguistic skills and styles used in literature and the way they convey meaning. During the course, I developed skills such as critical thinking, language analysis, and different language techniques used in advertisements and political speeches and their implementation on the audience. These different approaches built our mindsets as IB students and help prepare us for the future as we need to tackle problems in various ways and use the language that is the most profitable, efficient, and productive.

Mr. Drew goes beyond traditional teaching methods and accompanies each lesson with a series of videos, activities, or further readings to ensure deep understanding of the topic studied. This shows his proficient use of technology and dedication towards the student's conceptual understanding. His friendly demeanor and his genuine desire to guide others help to create a special bond between him and the student. He listens to student's feedback and requests while maintaining high standards in learning that empowers the students to climb the ladder of success and strive for perfection. Mr. Drew gives multiple chances for a student's success. He also manages to give students effective feedback on their exams if they have not mastered the material yet. This process encourages retention of learning the past exam and develops students' confidence.

From the two years I studied under Mr. Drew, I can say that I have been able to assist many students as well as friends and family members internationally. He is selfless, persistent, and bold. I hope you, too, see what a remarkable teacher Mr. Drew is and how he strives for other's success. He was our mentor through his teaching and will continue to be in the future.

Sala Al-Noami