

Dear Igor... Persuasive Letters

The kitchen,
First door on the right,
This flat

Igor's bed,
Somewhere among the mess,
This flat

Dearest son,

We, your parents, are writing this letter to ask you to tidy your bedroom. The reasons for this are explained below.

Firstly, we are extremely worried about your carpet. We've heard rumours that it's actually left your bedroom and has travelled to a different house. Until you pick up your piles of clothes and toys, we will be unable to confirm its location.

Secondly, we are worried about how dangerous your room currently is. You may be thinking that nobody noticed when you tripped over that toy car last week but we saw you waving your arms around to try to stop yourself from falling. However, I'm sure that you don't really want to risk that happening every time you need to grab something from your bookcase.

Luckily, tidying your room will solve all of these problems. Simply, place your dirty clothes in the bag and put your toys back in the box. Not sure which box to use? We suggest the one that says 'TOYS' on the top. This is easy to do and will have almost immediate results.

Please, for the safety of all who live here, tidy your room.

Yours sincerely,

Your concerned parents



Igor's room,
Second door on the left,
This flat

The kitchen,
First door on the right,
This flat

Dearest parents,

Thank you for your letter. You have made some good points but I would like to clear a few things up.

Firstly, my carpet is safe. If my carpet had decided to travel to a different house, don't you think that one of us would have noticed? I think that it's very happy sitting underneath my clothes and toys.

Secondly, I would like to point out the conversation that we had last week. You said that I should stop playing on my computer and 'stretch my legs'. However, when I stretch my legs over my toys, you think it's dangerous! In my opinion, the daily exercise that crossing my bedroom floor provides is fantastic. With all of the clothes and toys to jump over, I have a gym in my own bedroom. Why would you want me to get rid of that?

Lastly, you mentioned that I tripped over last week but you didn't mention the soft pile of clothes that I landed on. They saved me from being injured so I don't know why you would want me to tidy them away.

In conclusion, I will not be tidying my bedroom for the reasons mentioned above. I'm sure that you (my parents, who value my safety above all else) will agree.

Yours sincerely,

Igor

The living room,
Second door on the right,
This flat

Igor's bed,
Near Sock Mountain,
This flat

Igor,

Thank you for your reply.

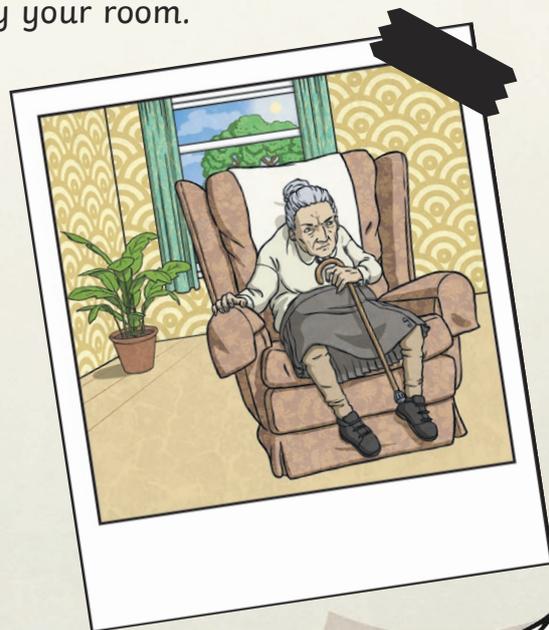
As your parents, who value your safety above all else, we must now insist that the room is tidied. It has gone beyond 'dangerous' and is now 'hazardous'. Last night, I struggled to find my way back to the door after reading a bedtime story to you.

Next week, your grandmother will be visiting. Do you really want her to see (and smell) Sock Mountain?

Please, for the safety of everyone, tidy your room.

Yours sincerely,

Your slightly fed up parents



Questions

1. Where were Igor's parents when they wrote their first letter? Tick one.

- the living room
- the kitchen
- Igor's bedroom
- the bathroom

2. Draw **four** lines and complete each sentence.

Igor's parents...	is visiting next week.
Igor...	want him to pick up his clothes.
Igor's grandmother...	is full of clothes and toys.
Igor's bedroom...	thinks that his carpet is safe.

3. Look at the final letter.

Find and copy one word that means the same as **demand**.

4. Fill in the missing words to complete the sentence.

Igor's _____ say that they think that Igor's _____ has travelled to a different house.

5. What did Igor land on when he tripped over a toy car?

6. How do you think Igor's parents felt when they read his reply? Explain your answer.

7. **Do you really want her to see (and smell) Sock Mountain?**

Why do you think that Igor's parents have chosen to include this in their letter?
Explain your answer.

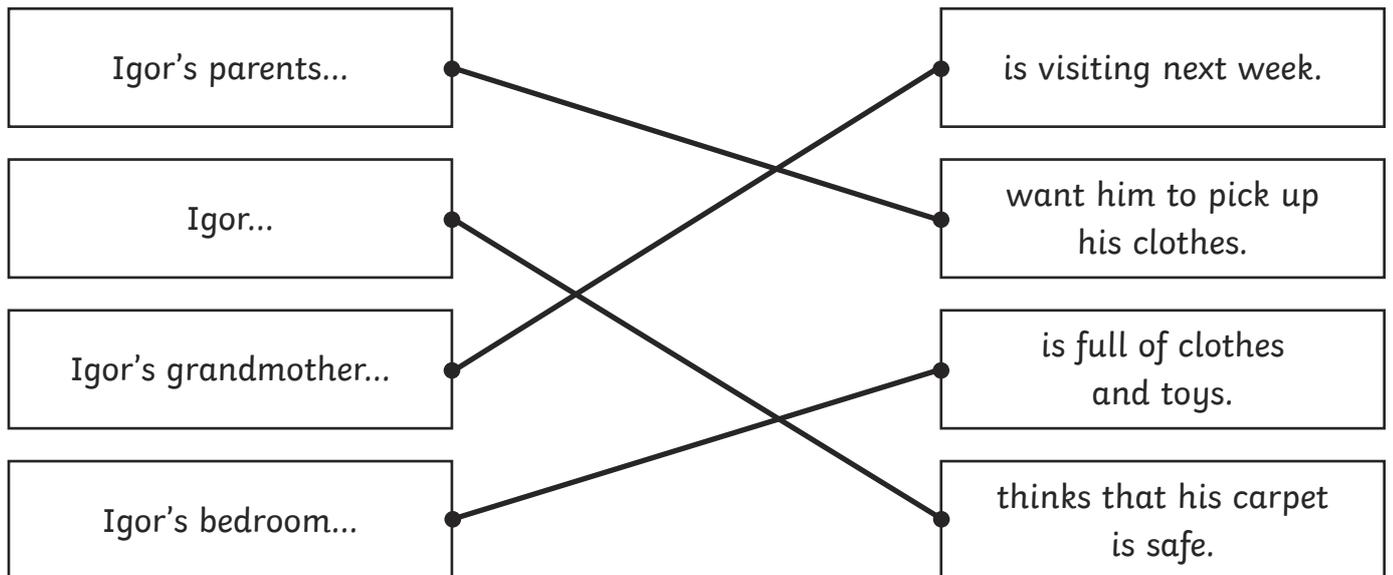
8. Do you think that Igor will tidy his bedroom? Fully explain your answer.

Answers

1. Where were Igor's parents when they wrote their first letter? Tick one.

- the living room
- the kitchen**
- Igor's bedroom
- the bathroom

2. Draw **four** lines and complete each sentence.



3. Look at the final letter.

Find and copy one word that means the same as **demand**.

insist

4. Fill in the missing words to complete the sentence.

Igor's **parents** say that they think that Igor's **carpet** has travelled to a different house.

5. What did Igor land on when he tripped over a toy car?

Igor landed on a soft pile of clothes when he tripped over a toy car.

6. How do you think Igor's parents felt when they read his reply? Explain your answer.

Pupils' own responses, such as: I think that Igor's parents would have felt annoyed because he has argued against all of their points and he is still refusing to tidy his bedroom.

7. **Do you really want her to see (and smell) Sock Mountain?**

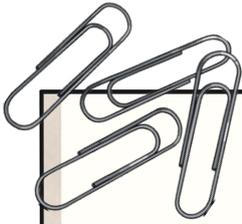
Why do you think that Igor's parents have chosen to include this in their letter?
Explain your answer.

Pupils' own responses, such as: I think that they have included this to make Igor feel embarrassed about his grandmother seeing Sock Mountain so that it will finally convince him to tidy his room.

8. Do you think that Igor will tidy his bedroom? Fully explain your answer.

Pupils' own responses, such as: I think that Igor will tidy his bedroom because his parents' last letter said that they were insisting that he does so. He might be worried about getting in trouble if he doesn't tidy the room.

Dear Igor... Persuasive Letters



The kitchen,
First door on the right,
This flat

Igor's bed,
Somewhere among the mess,
This flat

Dearest son,

We, your parents, are writing this letter to implore you to tidy your bedroom. As you will find in this letter, there have been recent events that have led us to this point.

Firstly, we are becoming increasingly concerned for your carpet. Rumours are spreading that it's actually left your room and has travelled to a different house. Until you reveal the floor (by removing the various mounds of clothes and toys), we will be unable to confirm or deny these claims.

Secondly, we are worried about the level of danger that your room currently presents. You may be thinking that nobody noticed when you stumbled over that toy car last week but we saw you waving your arms around to try to prevent yourself from falling. I'm sure that you don't really want to risk that level of danger every time you need to grab something from your bookcase.

Luckily, we have an easy solution: tidying. Simply, place your dirty clothes in the basket and put your toys back in the box. Not sure which box to use? We suggest the one that says 'TOYS' on the top. We think you'll find that it's spacious enough to hold every one of the toys currently living on your bedroom floor. This is a quick, simple and easy method that will yield almost immediate results.

Please, for the safety of all who live here, tidy your room.

Yours sincerely,

Your concerned parents

Igor's room,
Second door on the left,
This flat

The kitchen
First door on the right,
This flat

Dearest parents,

Thank you for your letter. While you have made some good points, I would like to clear a few things up.

Firstly, my carpet is safe so there is no need to be concerned. If my carpet had decided to travel to a different house, don't you think that at least one of us would have noticed? For years, it has enjoyed sitting beneath my clothes and toys and I can't see why that would change now.

Secondly, I would like to point out the conversation that we had last week. In this conversation, you suggested that I step away from my computer and 'stretch my legs'. However, it now seems as though you are against me stretching my legs over the mounds of clothes and toys! In my opinion, the daily exercise that navigating my bedroom floor presents is ideal. At the moment, I have a makeshift gym in my own bedroom. Why would you want me to get rid of that?

Lastly, you mentioned my small stumble last week. I know that you saw; I could hear you laughing. However, I'm disappointed that you didn't notice the soft pile of clothes that I landed on. Surely, you wouldn't want me to put them in a basket therefore leaving myself with no safe landing in the future.

In conclusion, I will not be tidying my bedroom for the reasons mentioned above. I'm sure that you (my parents, who value my safety above all else) will agree.

Yours sincerely,

Igor

The living room,
Second door on the right,
This flat

Igor's bed,
Near Sock Mountain,
This flat

Igor,

Thank you for your recent reply regarding your bedroom and how you feel as though it should not be cleaned.

As your parents, who value your safety above all else, we must now insist that the room is tidied. It has gone beyond 'dangerous' and is now 'hazardous'. Last night, I barely managed to find my way back through the door after reading a bedtime story to you.

Next week, your grandmother will be visiting. I assume that you don't wish her to see (or smell) Sock Mountain.

Please, for the safety of everyone, tidy your room.

Yours sincerely,

Your slightly fed up parents



Questions

1. Where is Igor's room? Tick one.

- first door on the right
- second door on the right
- first door on the left
- second door on the left

2. Draw **three** lines and match Igor's parents' concerns with Igor's response.

They are concerned that the carpet has left.

They are concerned that the bedroom is dangerous.

They are concerned that Igor needs to stretch his legs.

My bedroom is like a gym.

One of us would have noticed.

The clothes made for a soft landing.

3. Look at the first letter.

Find and copy one word that means the same as **beg**.

4. Why do Igor's parents suggest that he puts his toys in the box that says 'TOYS' on the top?

5. How does Igor know that his parents saw him trip on a toy car last week?

6. **Simply, place your dirty clothes in the basket and put your toys back in the box.**

Why do you think that Igor's parents have chosen to use the word **simply**?

7. Summarise Igor's argument against tidying his bedroom using 30 words or fewer.

8. Do you think that writing a letter was a good way to convince Igor to tidy his room?
Explain your answer.

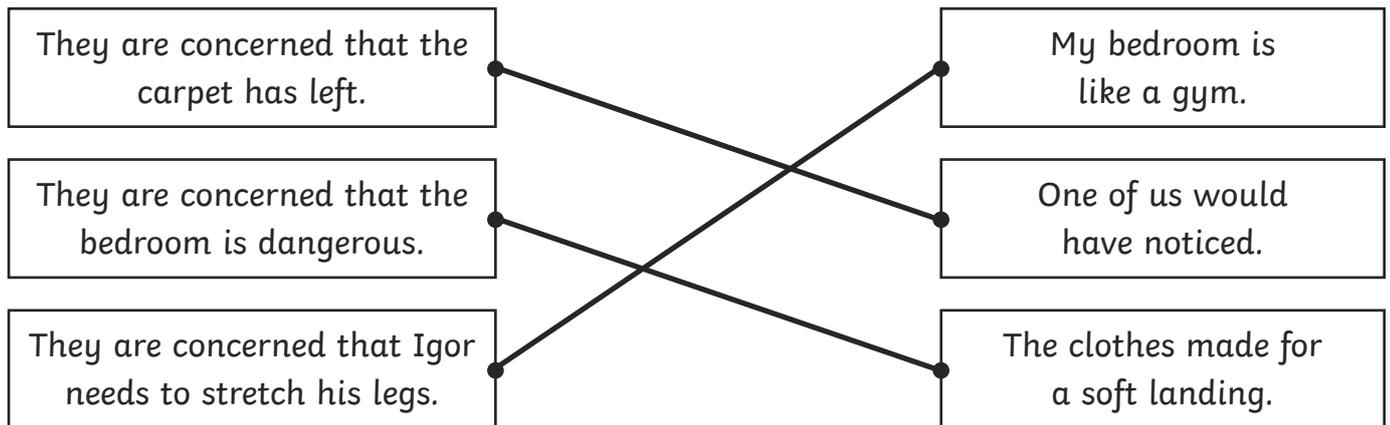
9. What do you think Igor will do next? Explain your answer.

Answers

1. Where is Igor's room? Tick one.

- first door on the right
- second door on the right
- first door on the left
- second door on the left**

2. Draw **three** lines and match Igor's parents' concerns with Igor's response.



3. Look at the first letter.

Find and copy one word that means the same as **beg**.

implore

4. Why do Igor's parents suggest that he puts his toys in the box that says 'TOYS' on the top?

They suggest this as it is spacious enough to hold all of the toys that are currently on his bedroom floor.

5. How does Igor know that his parents saw him trip on a toy car last week?

He knows because he could hear them laughing.

6. **Simply, place your dirty clothes in the basket and put your toys back in the box.**

Why do you think that Igor's parents have chosen to use the word **simply**?

Pupils' own responses, such as: I think that Igor's parents have chosen to use the word 'simply' to make Igor feel as though it's a really easy job. This might convince him to tidy his room.

7. Summarise Igor's argument against tidying his bedroom using 30 words or fewer.

Pupils' own responses, such as: His bedroom doesn't need tidying because his carpet is still there, the clothes make it safer if he falls and climbing over everything lets him stretch his legs.

8. Do you think that writing a letter was a good way to convince Igor to tidy his room? Explain your answer.

Pupils' own responses, such as: No, I don't think that writing a letter was a good way to get Igor to tidy his room because he doesn't seem to have taken it very seriously. Instead of spending time tidying his bedroom, he spent time writing a response.

9. What do you think Igor will do next? Explain your answer.

Pupils' own responses, such as: I think that Igor will write another letter which explains that his grandmother wouldn't need to go into his room. Therefore, this means that he doesn't need to tidy it for her visit next week.

Dear Igor... Persuasive Letters

The kitchen,
First door on the right,
This flat

Igor's bed,
Somewhere among the mess,
This flat

Dearest son,

We, your parents, are writing this letter to implore you to clear the mess that has become your bedroom. Ordinarily, this would not have become such an issue but a series of recent events have led us to this point.

Firstly, we are becoming increasingly concerned for the welfare of your carpet. Rumours are circulating that it's actually left your room and has travelled to a different house. Until you remove the heaps of dirty clothes and disused toys – revealing the floor below – we will be unable to confirm or deny these claims.

Secondly, we are worried about the level of danger that your room currently presents. Imagine being able to walk from the door to your bed without stubbing your toe or having to stretch to find a safe foothold. You may be thinking that nobody noticed when you stumbled over that toy car last week but we saw the way that your arms waved around as you tried to regain your footing. Surely, you don't want to risk that level of danger every time you need to retrieve something from your bookcase.

Luckily, we have an easy solution: tidying. Simply, place your dirty clothes in the provided bag and put your toys back in the box. Not sure which box to use? We suggest the one that says 'TOYS' on the top. Not only is it within easy reach but it's also spacious enough to hold every one of the toys currently living on your bedroom floor. I think you'll find that this quick, simple and easily deployed method will yield almost immediate results.

Please, for the safety of all who live here, tidy your room.

Yours sincerely,

Your concerned parents

Igor's room,
Second door on the left,
This flat

The kitchen,
First door on the right,
This flat

Dearest parents,

Thank you for your letter of concern. While you have made some good points, I would like to clarify a few things.

Firstly, my carpet is safe: there is no need to be concerned for its welfare. If my carpet had decided to travel to a different house, don't you think that at least one of us would have noticed? For years, it has enjoyed sitting beneath my various possessions and I see no reason for that suddenly changing.

Secondly, I would like to draw your attention to the conversation that we had last week. In this conversation, you suggested that I step away from my computer and 'stretch my legs'. However, it now seems as though you are against me stretching my legs for a safe foothold! In my opinion, the daily exercise and challenge that navigating my bedroom floor presents is ideal. In short, I have a makeshift gym in my own bedroom and I don't understand why you would want me to dismantle it.

Lastly, you mentioned my small stumble last week. I know you saw; you're not as good at muffling your laughter as you might think. However, I'm disappointed that you didn't notice the soft pile of clothes that I landed on – these undoubtedly shielded me from harm! Surely, you wouldn't want me to put them in a basket therefore leaving myself with no safe landing in the future.

In conclusion, I will not be tidying my bedroom for the multiple reasons mentioned above. I'm sure that you (my parents, who value my safety above all else) will agree.

Yours sincerely,

Igor

The living room,
Second door on the right,
This flat

Igor's bed,
Near Sock Mountain,
This flat

Igor,

Thank you for your recent reply regarding the state of your bedroom and how you feel as though it should not be cleaned.

As your parents, who value your safety above all else, we must now insist that the room is tidied. It has gone beyond 'dangerous' and is now in the realm of 'perilous'. Last night, I scarcely managed to navigate my way back through the door after your bedtime story.

Next week, your grandmother will be visiting. I assume that you don't wish to subject her to the sights (and smells) of Sock Mountain.

Please, for the safety of everyone, do what's right and tidy your room.

Yours sincerely,

Your slightly fed up parents



Questions

1. ...the way that your arms waved around as you tried to regain your footing.

Which of these is the closest definition of the phrase **regain your footing**? Tick one.

- stop yourself from falling
- stick your foot out
- grab onto your feet
- reach the bookcase again

2. Number the events from 1-4 to show the order that they occurred in.

- Igor was told that his grandmother will be visiting.
- Igor's parents expressed concern for his carpet.
- Igor tripped over a toy car.
- Igor said that he will not be tidying his bedroom.

3. Name two different reasons that Igor gives against tidying his bedroom.

1. _____
2. _____

4. Look at Igor's reply.

Find and copy one word that means the same as **belongings**.

5. Why do Igor's parents want to reveal the floor that is below the heaps of dirty clothes and disused toys?

6. Compare the letters written by Igor to those written by his parents. How are they similar?

7. Explain how Igor's response might have been different if his parents had spoken to him instead of writing a letter.

8. **Firstly, we are becoming increasingly concerned for the welfare of your carpet. Rumours are circulating that it's actually left your room and has travelled to a different house.** Why do you think that Igor's parents have chosen to personify his carpet?

9. Summarise Igor's parents' concerns using 30 words or fewer.

10. Imagine that you are Igor.

Write a short response back to your parents based on their last letter.

Answers

1. **...the way that your arms waved around as you tried to regain your footing.**

Which of these is the closest definition of the phrase **regain your footing**? Tick one.

- stop yourself from falling**
- stick your foot out
- grab onto your feet
- reach the bookcase again

2. Number the events from 1-4 to show the order that they occurred in.

- 4** Igor was told that his grandmother will be visiting.
- 2** Igor's parents expressed concern for his carpet.
- 1** Igor tripped over a toy car.
- 3** Igor said that he will not be tidying his bedroom.

3. Name two different reasons that Igor gives against tidying his bedroom.

Accept any two of the following: his carpet is safe; he is able to stretch his legs; his bedroom is like a makeshift gym; the piles of clothes make it safer if he falls; his bedroom would no longer be safe.

4. Look at Igor's reply.

Find and copy one word that means the same as **belongings**.

possessions

5. Why do Igor's parents want to reveal the floor that is below the heaps of dirty clothes and disused toys?

They want to reveal the floor so that they can check that the carpet is still there.

6. Compare the letters written by Igor to those written by his parents. How are they similar?

Pupils' own responses, such as: Both of the letters are set out in the same way and have an address for the sender and the receiver. They also both write their points clearly and explain why they think that they are right.

7. Explain how Igor's response might have been different if his parents had spoken to him instead of writing a letter.

Pupils' own responses, such as: If Igor's parents had spoken to him, he might not have had time to think up all of the excuses. This means that he might have had to tidy his bedroom because he couldn't argue against it.

8. **Firstly, we are becoming increasingly concerned for the welfare of your carpet. Rumours are circulating that it's actually left your room and has travelled to a different house.** Why do you think that Igor's parents have chosen to personify his carpet?

Pupils' own responses, such as: I think that Igor's parents have done this for effect and to exaggerate how messy his bedroom is. They are trying to make the letter seem a little bit funny so that Igor will listen to them.

9. Summarise Igor's parents' concerns using 30 words or fewer.

Pupils' own responses, such as: They are concerned that Igor's bedroom is dangerous, that they can't see the carpet and that his grandma will see and smell Sock Mountain when she comes to visit.

10. Imagine that you are Igor.

Write a short response back to your parents based on their last letter.

Pupils' own responses, such as: Thank you for your reply. You make some good points. However, there is no need for grandmother to visit my bedroom. Instead, I will be spending time with her in the kitchen and the living room. Therefore, I will not need to dismantle Sock Mountain. Yours sincerely, Igor.