

A PROPOSAL



- 1** Work in pairs. What do you know about Michelle Obama? Read the mini biography to check your ideas.

Name:	Michelle Obama
Born:	1964 in Chicago, Illinois
Education:	studied Law at Harvard Law School
Roles:	First Lady of the United States, intellectual property lawyer, author, broadcaster
Achievements:	a role model for women, she has worked to promote education, especially through her campaign 'Let Girls Learn'. She has also worked to raise awareness of poverty and to promote physical activity and healthy eating

- 2** Read the task. What does the school want to do, and why?

Your school recently voted Michelle Obama their inspirational person of the year and wants to honour her in some way, for example by having a picture of her in the school or naming part of the school after her. Suggest an appropriate way to honour her. Say in what way it would be suitable, and explain how it would inspire students in the future.

Write your **proposal**.

- 3** Read the proposal. Do you agree that this is a suitable way to honour Michelle Obama? Why? / Why not?

1
The purpose of this proposal is to suggest a way to honour Michelle Obama, who was recently voted our inspirational person of the year. I would like to suggest that we name the library after her. I would like to outline why.

2
As well as providing a role model as First Lady of the USA, Michelle Obama has worked hard to promote education. In 2015, she launched her campaign called 'Let Girls Learn', which focuses on educating girls around the world. The campaign recognises that there are barriers to education in countries around the world, but that education provides the best opportunity for young people to lead happy and successful

lives. Books and learning are crucial to education, so, for this reason, the library seems like a suitable place to honour her achievements.

3
I am convinced that the new Michelle Obama Library could be an inspiration to students now and in the future. Not only would it remind students that education and learning are a privilege they should never take for granted, but it might also encourage them to take control of their own education by accessing a huge range of books and online learning materials. Naming the library after such a successful and inspiring person could inspire others to study in order to make the most of their own opportunities and achieve their own success in life.

- 4** Choose the best heading (a or b) for each paragraph in the proposal.

- 1**
a Proposal for a way to honour Michelle Obama
b Proposal to name the library after an inspirational person
- 2**
a Michelle Obama's achievements
b Michelle Obama's focus on education
- 3**
a Why naming the library after her is the best option
b How the library could inspire students

- 5** Look at the **Key Language** for making recommendations. Complete it with underlined phrases from the proposal in Exercise 3.

KEY LANGUAGE FOR MAKING RECOMMENDATIONS

Be polite when you make suggestions

I would suggest ... I would like to propose ...

1

Use impersonal language

The ideas put forward here ... The aim of this proposal is ...

2

Make it clear why you make certain recommendations

Not only would it ..., but it might also ...;

3

Link your ideas clearly

... so that ..., ... in order to ...

4

- 6** In order to be polite in a proposal, we often use phrases with a less definite meaning, and we avoid telling the reader what they should think or do. Choose the more polite forms to complete the sentences.

- 1** I am going to / would like to propose that we put up a statue.
- 2** We definitely need / There could be a new wildlife area dedicated to him.

- 3 *It seems likely that / It's fairly obvious that* most people know of his achievements.
- 4 *I am convinced that / Everyone agrees that* this would be the best idea.
- 5 *I want to insist on / would like to suggest* a portrait of her in the school hall.

7 Complete the second sentence so it is more impersonal. Use the word in brackets.

- 1 We need to name it the Lionel Messi Gym.
One the Lionel Messi Gym.
(possibility)
- 2 The statue has to be quite large.
It be quite large.
(recommended)
- 3 Everyone will love the new park.
The new park everyone.
(enjoyed)
- 4 Lots of students will be interested in this project.
This project could to many students. (interest)
- 5 The obvious way to honour him is with a new park.
A new park to honour him.
(suitable)

8 We often use modal verbs when we are giving reasons for recommendations. Choose the correct modal verbs to complete the sentences.

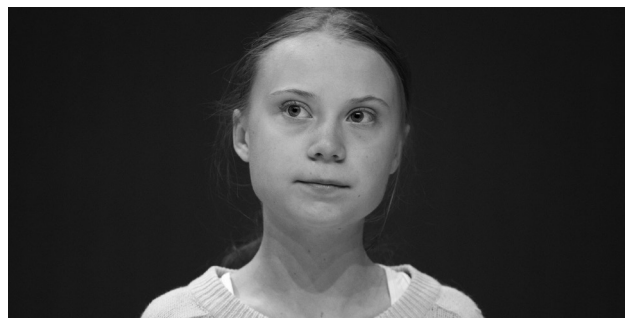
- 1 Building a new gym *can / would* encourage students to be more active.
- 2 Promoting his ideas *has to / might* inspire others to campaign against poverty.
- 3 A new theatre *could / must* also inspire others to take up acting.

9 Complete the sentences with the correct linking phrase from the box.

for this reason in order to not only so that

- 1 It might be nice to have a new sports field future generations of students can take part in a range of different sports.
- 2 Hana Thompson is a local sporting hero.
....., a new sports centre would be a suitable way to honour her.
- 3 would a new art gallery enable people to enjoy famous art from the past, but it could also encourage them to take up art themselves.
- 4 I would suggest that we name the cinema after him remember his great contribution to the world of film.

10 Read the task. Then work in pairs. Discuss the questions below.



Your local town council recently voted Greta Thunberg its environmental inspiration personality of the year, and wants to honour her in some way. Suggest an appropriate way to honour her, say why it would be appropriate and explain how it could encourage local people to appreciate the environment. Write your **proposal** in 220–260 words.

- 1 What do you think would be an appropriate way to honour Greta Thunberg in your town? Why?
- 2 How could your ideas encourage local people to appreciate the environment?

11 In your pairs, plan your proposal using your ideas from Exercise 10. Remember to include headings.

PLAN YOUR PROPOSAL

Heading 1

Heading 2

Heading 3

12 Write your proposal. Use the notes in your plan and phrases from the Key Language box.

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13 Swap proposals with another pair. Have they included headings? What phrases from the Key language box does it include? Do you agree with their proposal? Give feedback.