

September 8, 2019

To Whom It May Concern:

I write today to strongly recommend Luke Milon for admission into your institution. Last year, I had the pleasure of teaching Luke in AP English Language and Composition, a course that requires students to read difficult nonfiction texts, study traditional rhetoric, and compose succinct yet insightful essays on a variety of topics. Earning a high B in the class and a 3 on the College Board exam, Luke clearly did well in the course.

Luke stands out in my mind for his work ethic, intelligence and his easy-going personality. He actively participated in class and was never afraid to ask clarifying questions or to seek extra help. He is an excellent reader who takes the time to annotate, re-read and look up unknown words, allusions or historical references. I remember Luke being quite interested in our unit on *The Great Gatsby*. Luke showed, through his written and oral comments, that he was able to see the novel as an allegory for the American Dream, and not just a sappy love story.

I also remember Luke doing a great job in our unit on rhetorical devices used in advertising campaigns. As a culminating project, students were placed in small groups and tasked with creating an ad campaign for a fictional product of their own creation. Luke and his group created three print ads and slogans for a smart watch that can translate all languages. Through the project, Luke demonstrated a knack for applying theoretical concepts (Greek rhetorical devices) to real-world applications (advertising).

Luke has an intense drive to succeed at whatever he tries. Throughout high school, he has pushed himself to take on increasingly more difficult coursework. Luke is the kind of student who would rather get a B in an AP class than get an A in an academic class. By his own admission, he is a student who has to work hard for every grade that he gets. While some students get into National Honor Society through sheer intellect, Luke was inducted this past May through his own grit and determination. This fall, Luke will continue to work extraordinarily hard. For his senior year, a time when many students lack motivation, Luke has enrolled in 2 AP classes and 2 college-in-high-school classes.

Luke's work ethic and drive-to-succeed can be seen outside the classroom as well. He plays on our soccer and tennis teams, is a member of Future Business Leaders of America, and participates on our speech and debate team. He also helps the less fortunate by doing humanitarian work in Appalachia.

Luke will make the most of the educational opportunities you give him, and he will make an excellent addition to your campus community. I wholeheartedly recommend that you accept Luke Milon today.

Sincerely,

David P. Hermenau
Hampton High School
English Department