**Entry #3**

Good. 13 years young indeed.

Also, I am glad you discovered this use of the word ‘without’. Having a good range of vocabularyis not just about the big, fancy words, but also about discovering the many meanings of simpler, everyday words.

2013. A new year is just around the corner!

2013 is going to be a very special year for me, because I will be a teenager, something I have always looked forward to since when I was young. To have that freedom, that independence, that discipline.

Even though next year I will be 13 years young, there is something that will stay the same within me even if I change without. My heart. My heart will remain the same young one which will never grow tired of my soft toys, even if I physically grow taller and stronger.

Use the dash.

“... even if I change without – my heart.”

Need a comma here.

Talking about fitness, one of my new year ~~resolution~~ **resolutions** is to visit the gym more to – well**,** not exactly lose fat because I am not really fat, but let’s just say, to train my muscles.

Can be better phrased.

“I have to take care of my parents and do my housework – all while doing homework for nine subjects! That’s a really big increase from just five in Primary School.

However, I have more things in mind. Being a teenager comes with more responsibility. I have to take care of my parents, housework, all these while I do my homework for 9 subjects! A really big increase in number from 5 back in primary school!

Another thing I must improve on is my sense of responsibility. Every year, I lose so many things that my mother has to spend at least $50 on pencils, pencil cases, water bottles, and sometimes even my wallet!

I hope to earn some money so that next year I can exercise even more independence. Shhhhh… I’m also quite excited to be free of my mother’s incessant nagging! Haha I’m just kidding.

YES. Thank you for punctuating properly.

Even though this essay is supposed to be about 2013, I feel that it is still important that we look back at 2012, **to** look back at what we have done and **at** memorable experiences with friends and family.

The most memorable event of 2012 must **have** ~~be~~ **been** that the world was supposed to end. I read that the Mayan calendar did not account for leap years since leap years were only introduced in 400+ A.D. by Julius Caesar. So actually 21/12/12 was supposed to be June 2012 in the Mayan calendar, meaning that the world ~~is~~ **was** supposed to end 6 months earlier! False alarm!

Enough facts for now.

I’m also a big big fan of BPL (Barclays Premier League) and I don't support any team but I like to watch the goals. But… did you know that the average attendance of spectators for every match is almost 36,000? Sorry for another fact!

My favourite moment of the year ~~will be~~ **would have be** Michael Phelps’ standing ovation during the London Olympics this year. This moment serves as a reminder that hard work is everything. ~~and~~ I will always want to be like Michael Phelps, never giving up and always striving for the best.

Another of my favourite Olympic moments ~~is~~  **was** the time when Usain Bolt lost the 100m semi-finals. Everybody was talking about whether he would still win this event. Despite not qualifying for the pole position, as one would call in Formula 1, he was not disheartened. Fueled by his determination and drive, he flew towards the finish line, clinching the gold medal.

2012 has indeed been an eventful and inspirational year for me and I hope 2013 will be even better. (It will definitely be better with an iPad! Hehe ) Time for a new adventure! Bon Voyage!

**COMMENTS**

*I must say that I enjoyed reading your essay. Very simple, refreshingly honest point of view.*

*I am glad to see you using the oxford comma. Also, I was surprised to see your usage of the word ‘without’. Many forget that you can use it as the opposite of ‘within’. Aside from these, there were quite a few interesting perspectives (13 years young) that make the essay enjoyable.*

*Nevertheless, the entire essay was a bit short for my liking. Not that this is wrong, of course, but then you have to compensate for the shortage of content. The punch-to-word ratio has to be higher.*

*You strayed dangerously close to rambling territory with that bit about the soccer team. Trivia can be fun, but in this case I felt that it did not add to your essay. Any longer and you would have lost me as a reader. I would have just stopped paying attention.*

*Otherwise, an excellent piece. Keep up the good work.*

*P.S. watch your tenses.*