

Paris, the 5th of September 2022

Letter of recommendation

Dear Sir or Madam,

I can confidently recommend the scholarly abilities of Paul Ostroverhy to you. Whether he chooses an academic route through the arts, the humanities, or something else entirely, his abilities indicate he is capable of extraordinary success.

At only fourteen years of age, Paul already shows real and precocious talent in three areas: comprehension, analytical thinking, and writing.

He is able to read complex texts thoroughly, rapidly extracting the central ideas. We have considered Plato and Thomas Hobbes in our sessions; Hobbes is generally a difficult philosopher, but Paul was able to grasp his central ideas within a few hours of being introduced to him. Moreover, Paul's analytical mind is able to grapple with the ideas presented to it rather than just observe them. He can independently form a strong opinion and defend it. I placed him under significant pressure (both time and intellectual) during debates on these opinions, but he responded with energy and verve.

However, I think it is Paul's writing level that best indicates his remarkable potential. It is advanced well beyond his years, with much raw talent evident. He has the ability to write clearly and persuasively, and separately a strong instinctive ability for poetic prose and imagery. Paul is beginning to control this latter ability so he can subordinate it to his own argumentative purposes. As this process continues it will supplement his argumentative writing. I suspect Paul's future achievements will include some unusually powerful and lucid essays.

There is much to be impressed by now, and much potential to feed notable achievements in future. I am confident Paul will fulfil his promise because of his work ability. He is hard-working and willing to learn, remaining focussed through four-hour sessions together. He is inquisitive and alert. These attributes mean his learning academic progress is fast, and they have already allowed him to obtain an impressive base of knowledge.

Paul is an impressive young man. But he is also a likeable one. Friendly, confident and self-possessed, I can see him fitting in with a wide selection of settings and forming personal connections that will help him in all the situations, difficult and pleasant, he will encounter over the next few years.

Paul Ostroverhy is one to watch.



Yours faithfully
Edward Patrick
Studying for BA in Philosophy
Politics and Economics
at St. John's College
Oxford University