# WRITING Letter of advice

#### DEAR ...,

- Paragraph 1 Introduction (showing sympathy)
- Having read your problem...
- I was sorry to read about your problem...
- I understand how you feel and...
- I was in the same situation a few years ago...

### Paragraphs 2&3 – Main body (giving advice)

- It would/might be a good idea to...
- I strongly advise you to/not to...
- I think you should...
- □ The best thing for you to do is...
- Have you thought about...?
- □ If I were you, I would...
- One/another suggestion is to...

## <u>Paragraph 4</u> – Conclusion (giving reassurance)

- I hope these ideas will help you.
- If none of these ideas work, then you might...
- □ Don't worry...
- To sum up/summing up

Yours/best wishes, Name

#### TIPS

- Don't forget to count the number of words in your letter!
- Make sure the paragraphs are clearly organised
- The style should be appropriate for the target reader (we usually write informal letters to friends and relatives we know well, or to people of our own age)

### CHARACTERISTICS OF AN INFORMAL LETTER

- Short forms
- Simple/colloquial vocabulary
- Use of the active, rather than the passive voice
- Informal beginnings and endings