

To Whom It May Concern,

I am Arko Kes a senior at the American Community School of Abu Dhabi. Mr. Kempe has been my economics teacher since I was a junior. As soon as I walked into his class I could tell that it would be a fun year in the class. He has always been very open with his students which allowed us to trust him even with issues outside of the classroom. From the first day, he made sure that everyone was involved and engaged in the classroom and also made sure that they felt that his classroom was a safe space for them to express themselves freely. Truly as the year went on the only class I genuinely enjoyed and looked forward to was Mr. Kempe's class. As soon as I realized that I had economics with Mr. Kempe next I immediately felt a sense of happiness and excitement rush through my body. No matter what had happened that day or how I was feeling before the class began.

One of Mr. Kempe's best qualities outside of the classroom is how compassionate he is. Toward the end of my junior year, I was struggling with a class and I was on the verge of tears on the last day of school. Due to the amount of pressure I was feeling the only teacher I felt comfortable talking to that day was Mr. Kempe. He was very comforting and supportive in that moment. I vividly remember that conversation me and Mr. Kempe had. He had started by hugging me and reassuring me that I would make the right decision in the end whether or not it affected having me in his class or leaving it. He also let me know that I could contact him through the summer if I needed to for any kind of support. This was not a one-off instance, I had a situation in the middle of my senior year that was very sensitive. Due to past interactions with Mr. Kempe about sensitive topics, I knew that I could approach him privately via Google chat and he would be of help. He was the first person that I came to with this situation and his compassion and empathy saved me from various other possibilities. He provides an ear to all of his students and provides them with the best advice that he can. He makes everyone feel comfortable and that it would be kept confidential. The relationship that Mr. Kempe has made with me and many of my peers is incredibly special as for me I have never had such a relationship with a teacher. I once again had a similar dilemma at the beginning of the senior year where I felt that I might have to change a few of my classes and once again Mr. Kempe reassured me that even if I had to leave his class I would be completely fine and he would support me through it.

One of Mr. Kempe's best qualities within the classroom is that he is always willing to teach even if that means some extra time required for him to give. I want to study economics and write my Extended Essay in economics and wanted Mr. Kempe to be my supervisor though this wasn't possible. Due to mistakes on my part though Mr. Kempe said that even though he could not be my supervisor I could still do an EE in World Studies and if there was an economic aspect to it he would help me with the Economic aspect of it and help me make my EE as good as possible. Not many teachers would offer that extra workload on their part which showed me his general passion for teaching as well as wanting all his students to succeed. Mr. Kempe showed

this trait once again as we had finals coming up and he allowed anyone and everyone whether they were in his class or not to come to his classroom during lunch right before our finals to clear any doubt and make sure that everyone feels confident for their final.

The classroom that Mr. Kempe builds is a pleasure to be in. He actively asks for feedback on everything including situations within the classroom and outside of it. In my junior year after a school-wide assembly about the new grading system, we spent a whole class giving him feedback about the new grading system as well as how it is in different classes. He was also very aware of how our class felt about summatives and formatives combined. I personally could see a change in what Mr. Kempe was trying to do as he became more flexible with the formatives given to us. This was due to the pressure he saw us take for a test he made the formatives a lot more relaxed and also allowed for everyone to get adequate feedback that would be useful in the upcoming test. Mr. Kempe throughout the year constantly took feedback at different levels and stages to see how we were feeling about a topic or how the class felt for us as students. That is something that every student wants in a teacher. He was ready to change his plans and accommodate what was necessary for the class and was very flexible with the activities as long as we were all still learning and doing well. I believe that this was the main reason why my class especially had done well throughout the year.

As for the class itself, every class has the perfect balance of a lecture, activities, and collaboration. He uses real-world examples of what we are learning in class to ensure that we know why and how it has affected our world. One of the real-world examples we used in my junior was The Line which is currently being made. He was able to use that example to show us different economic theories that were relevant to the topic we were studying at the time. There were many of these instances throughout the year. The class also was able to choose how they wanted to run. We would have the choice of what to do with the class. One instance of this was that I brought up an issue that the reading that he had assigned was quite a lot and we would need more time than what was allotted for the assignment to make sure that we would have adequate time to complete it. After I brought up this issue to Mr. Kempe he changed the class plans for that day and allowed us 30 minutes at the end of the period to get started on the assignment.

Mr. Kempe's classroom is one that me and my peers always look forward to as we know that we will both learn but at the same time be able to laugh and enjoy the class to the fullest. It is by far the best class I have in my schedule. As for Mr. Kempe, he is the best teacher that I have ever had. The relationship I have with Mr. Kempe is something to cherish for me personally. Through everyone who has and has not come in contact with Mr. Kempe, no one has a bad word to say about him whether it is about the type of person he is or the type of teacher he is. This is not only for my class it is also for the current juniors. There is a common consensus that he is the most liked teacher in our school. Mr. Kempe is a wonderful teacher and character to have in any community.

If you have any questions please feel free to contact me through my email
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Best Regards,
Arko Kes