

To Whom it may concern:

It has been my pleasure and privilege to be taught by Mr. Andrew Kempe and is an honor to have been able to. Mr. Kempe has made a great impact on YIS and its community. Not only did he do an astonishing job teaching each and every student in his class, but also brought joy and happiness. His passion for teaching and his amazing humor always makes the class laugh. Graduating middle school, Mr. Kempe was one of the most memorable, and impactful teachers. I have no doubt that he will continue to make a positive impact on all students he teaches.

I first met Mr. Kempe in my third year of middle school as my I&S teacher. In a different way to previous years of I&S, he prioritized getting to know his students first. Mr. Kempe interacted with them, and therefore, made an environment where asking questions and debating was rather normal. Students gradually were comfortable speaking up in class, became more social, and therefore, the learning process became more efficient and effective. Not only did the learning change, but also the attitude towards learning. I noticed the students around me change as they slowly started to speak up more and started looking forward to the classes. This is possibly the most impactful thing a teacher could do. I have noticed that debating is an amazing and important aspect of learning. Mr. Kempe's classes made me think so. As students became comfortable sharing their ideas and perspectives, we were able to take in more and even make learning entertaining. The communication, leadership, and collaboration that took place in his classes were stunning.

I've always admired Mr. Kempe's teaching style and how he interacts with students and I think of him as a role model for all teachers. If theoretically speaking, teachers were more like Mr. Kempe, the learning atmosphere would drastically change. Students will be able to engage more in the learning and no one would be left behind. I believe that school is not a place where students should feel stressed and worried. Many of my fellow classmates and colleagues would say how much they are struggling with their studies and how they dislike school. That said, many of those same students would forward to Mr. Kempe's classes. I think he creates this kind of special relationship with the students and which makes us all feel comfortable around him. He is all of what I could hope for from a teacher. Engaging, kind, attentive, and social. I can see that many teachers would struggle to be able to have the same relationship with their students as Mr. Kempe. Although, he makes it look easy and I know this because he has done so on the first day of class. Not only has he made me much more successful, but as well as the whole class.

Mr. Kempe is what a school needs. He is a great example of what makes a good teacher and will always continue to be. I have no doubt that wherever he goes, he will make a tremendous impact on the students and the school and will make a remarkable change. No matter what situation is given, he is always resilient and will always come around to help. He is one of the best teachers I have ever had and I will never forget his support, kindness, and resilience. I am more than happy to be his student in the upcoming years of high school as he will take me, as well as my classmates to the next level and the next chapter of our lives.

Please feel free to contact me via email at 25minamia@yis.ac.jp if you have any concerns or questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Allen Minami". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Allen Minami
YIS (Yokohama International School Japan) Highschool Freshman