APPENDIX 2.7 "Plea for a Bicycle"

Dear Mom and Dad,

I think I should get a bicycle. I have wanted a bicycle for a long time, and I think that I am ready. If I get a bicycle, it will be good for me and for the entire family.

I am ten years old now, so I am old enough to be safe and responsible with a bicycle. I am strong enough to ride without falling. I am smart enough to watch out for cars, stay on the bike path, and stay away from people walking. I would take good care of my bicycle by keeping it clean and locking it up whenever I park it.

If I had a bicycle, I would get much more exercise. Everyone knows that kids need lots of exercise. If I had a bicycle, I would spend more time outdoors and less time sitting inside playing video games. I would ride up and down hills and all around the neighborhood. This would help to keep me healthy and strong.

My bicycle would be helpful to the whole family. I would be able to ride to my friends' houses and basketball practice, so you would not need to drive me all the time. I could do errands like riding to the store or the post office. You have bicycles that you hardly ever use, so maybe now we could all go for family rides together. It would be so much fun!

If I get a bicycle, I promise to be careful riding it and taking care of it. It would be good for me and for our family. My birthday is coming, plus I have a little money saved that could help pay for it. Please! Please! Please!

Hopefully yours,

Alex