

September 1, 2010

Dear Mr. Heyer,

Begin writing the body of your letter here. Remember: you are introducing yourself to me, so you can include whatever personal information you want to share.

Don't forget to include 5 **highlighted** adjectives about yourself. These are words that describe you, such as: intelligent, funny, athletic, etc.

Indent all paragraphs as I have done in this example. You do not need to skip lines between paragraphs. Your letter can be as long as you'd like.

Sincerely,

Student Name

	20 each	15 each
Process	4/4 (PR, RD, Rev, Ed)	3/4 (PR, RD, Rev, Ed)
Format	Complies with all the requirements of a friendly letter. (follow my example)	Complies with almost all the requirements of a friendly letter. (follow my example)
Ideas	Ideas are expressed very clearly and are well organized. Writing shows strong depth of thought.	Ideas are expressed clearly. Could be more organized. Writing shows some depth of thought.
Content Accuracy	Contains at least 5 highlighted adjectives about yourself, with examples and explanations.	Contains 3-4 highlighted adjectives about yourself, with examples and explanations.
Presentation	Neat, clean, not wrinkled, and easy to read with <i>no</i> distracting errors. It is clear that it was done with pride.	Neat, clean, not wrinkled, and easy to read with only 1-2 distracting errors. It looks like it was done with care.

August 27, 2010

Dear Class,

Welcome to the 2010-2011 school year! I can barely wait to share all the wonderful stories we will read this year. I'm also excited to see just how far each of you will progress by the time you graduate from middle school. Before we begin our journey in Language Arts, I feel it is important for us to get to know one another. In the next few weeks, I hope to learn what is important to you. I value my education, the traveling I have done, and my family.

I am **proud** to say that I graduated from the University of California, Santa Cruz, with a degree in philosophy. You probably know the mascots of many Texas schools, but I bet you didn't know that UCSC's mascot is the banana slug. That's a slug the size of a banana, and they live all over the forest that grows on campus. I am also a cougar now since I just completed my Masters degree at the University of Houston.

When I am not in school, I enjoy traveling as much as possible. My **adventurous** side has taken me to Switzerland, Mexico, Washington, D.C., New York City, Minnesota, Montana, Washington, and Indiana.

Traveling has allowed me to experience the different parts of our world and has helped me become an **open-minded** person. I have not had the opportunity to travel as much as I would like, but I have enjoyed living in California, Oregon, and now Texas.

Being the **older** brother to my younger sister has definitely had an impact on the person I am today. Watching out for her as we grew up helped me to become the **caring** person I am today. Last January my sister became a mother, and I see she is as caring towards her daughter (my niece) as I was to her. My wife, Nicole, and my three cats, Reason, K.C., and Mellow, now benefit from my caring side when I make sure their bellies are always full with my **delicious** cooking.

This week is going great so far, and I am looking forward to getting to know all of you throughout the year. I promise to do my best to prepare you all for the next exciting chapters of your life—in high school, college, and beyond!

Sincerely,

Mr. Heyer