



Student Book Choice Character to Author Letter Competition Instructions

Individual Fall Competition	One Entry Per Chapter Level
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Objective: Write a letter to the author of a book from the perspective of a character in that book.

Learning Targets:

- Improved understanding of character development and analysis through the exercise of writing a letter from a character's perspective.
- Enhanced writing skills by practicing expressing opinions and emotions in a creative manner.
- Increased comprehension of literary techniques such as point of view and voice by embodying a character in written form.
- Strengthened critical thinking skills by evaluating the positive and negative traits of a character and expressing them effectively.

Final Product Guidelines:

- Must be a Google Doc or PDF written document.
- **Must clearly be the student's own original work - NO AI ALLOWED.**
- Should be excellently written in proper language (no texting-style abbreviations) with excellent grammar, spelling, & mechanics.
- Should be 200-400 words of letter body text.
- Can be based on any children's, middle grades, or Young Adult book the student has read.
- Finished document guidelines:
 - Cover page including:
 - Student's name
 - Student's school
 - Student's grade
 - Image of the book cover the letter is based on
 - Name of character in the book from whom the letter is written
 - Properly formatted business letter including:
 - Character's Address (be creative with this)
 - Date
 - Author's Name
 - Author's Address (or an imaginary address, if unable to find)
 - Greeting
 - Body text of 200-400 words
 - Salutation
 - Character's Name

- See business letter sample here:
 - https://www.readwritethink.org/sites/default/files/resources/lesson_images/lesson1083/lettersamples.pdf
- Text of letter should include:
 - Name of book
 - Description of character's personality and/or role in the book
 - Description of an event involving the character in the book
 - Character's reflection on their role, personality, or events in the book
 - Questions for the author from the character
 - Character's suggestions to the author about what they would have changed about their character or the events in the book
 - Any other personal flourishes the student wishes to add to make the letter more interesting

Tome Student Book Choice Character to Author Letter Scoring Rubric

*Student should self-assess their work using the following scoring rubric before submission.
Failure to meet all rubric requirements will result in loss of points.*

Document is submitted as a Google Doc or PDF format. 5 pts		Document is not submitted as a Google Doc or PDF format. 0 pts	
Document is clearly the student's original work. 20 pts		Evidence suggests the work was created using AI or is not fully the student's original work. 0 pts	
Excellent grammar, spelling, & mechanics 20 pts	Good grammar, spelling, & mechanics 15 pts	Fair grammar, spelling, & mechanics 10 pts	Poor grammar, spelling, & mechanics 5 pts
Letter body text is between 200 & 400 words 5 pts		Letter body text is less than 200 words or more than 400 words. 0 pts	
Letter is written in the style of a business letter. 5 pts		Letter is not written in the style of a business letter. 0 pts	
Letter includes character's address & date written. 6 pts	Letter partially includes character's address & date written. 3 pts		Letter does not include character's address or date written. 0 pts
Letter includes author's name & address. 6 pts	Letter partially includes author's name and address. 3 pts		Letter does not include author's name & address. 0 pts
Letter includes a greeting & salutation 6 pts	Letter partially includes a greeting and salutation 3 pts		Letter does not include a greeting or salutation 0 pts
Letter is written from a character in a book to the author of that book. 10 pts		Letter is not written from a character in a book to the author of that book. 0 pts	
Letter includes thorough discussion of the character's personality & role in the book, and events involving them. 10 pts	Letter includes some discussion of the character's personality & role in the book, and events involving them. 5 pts		Letter does not include discussion of the character's personality & role in the book, and events involving them. 0 pts
Letter includes thorough reflection by the character about their part in the book. 10 pts	Letter includes some reflection by the character about their part in the book. 5 pts		Letter does not include reflection by the character about their part in the book. 0 pts
Letter includes several thoughtful questions and suggestions from the character to the author. 10 pts	Letter includes some questions and suggestions from the character to the author. 5 pts		Letter does not include questions and suggestions from the character to the author. 0 pts
Excellent written 20 pts	Well written 15 pts	Fairly well written 10 pts	Poorly written 5 pts

Total Points Awarded: _____/133 pts