

Worksheet 1

Letters About Literature: How do they compare to other writing assignments?

- What other types of writing assignments have/haven't you already done?
Which ones did/didn't you like doing? Were there any of them you would like to do?
Please back up your decision by giving reasons. You may add to the list.
- Compared to the other writing assignments, what is special about *Letters About Literature*?

Genres	Examples / operative words	Short description
Writing a formal letter or email	Letters About Literature Letter to the Editor Cover Letter for an Application (to apply for college, for an internship, etc.)	You have to follow formal rules
Writing a summary	Summarize the extract/the text in no more than 200 words	You need to understand the general idea of the text; its content and its message. Then you have to decide what to include and what to leave out
Writing a review	Film review Book review Play review	You provide information and express your opinion. You either recommend the piece in question or discourage people from reading/seeing it.
Writing a report	Write a report on (e.g. something that happened in a novel you read)	You state facts in a chronological order
Argumentative writing	Written discussion, e.g. 'Books can give you wings.' Discuss this statement. Comment, e.g. Comment on the statement that books can give you wings.	Pros and cons, conclusion Pros and cons, your opinion
Writing a character profile	Writing a character profile of ... (a character in a fictional text)	Explain why the character does/says what he/she does/says
Writing a text analysis	Analyze the relationship between ... and ... (characters in a fictional text) Analyze how the author presents her argument.	Examine a certain aspect of a text (find the relevant information)
Doing a creative writing task	Write an ending of a story. Rewrite the story from a character's point of view.	Create a text (using a piece of writing as a starting point)
Analyzing cartoons/pictures/graphs...	Analyze...	Basic information, description, analysis, evaluation
Mediation (Sprachmittlung)	Write an email to your German e-pal giving advice on...based on the article below.	Mediating between speakers of German and English: selecting relevant information based on the addressee's needs (language and culture) and the communicative situation.
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