

World Languages-Level 1
Individual Common Activity: Autobiographical Letter to a Pen Pal

I. Task

Students will write an autobiographical letter in the target language to a pen pal in any country from the target culture.

Standard: WL1d

II. Requirements for Task

A. Organization

1. The letter must contain at least 8 complete sentences in the target language.
2. The letter must contain previously learned vocabulary and structures appropriate to the level.
3. The letter must read smoothly and demonstrate logical development.

B. Structure and Content

1. The letter must include the date and an appropriate greeting.
2. The body of the text must include, but is not limited to, the following:
 - a. introduction of oneself including name, origin, age, and birthday
 - b. description of oneself including personality traits and physical characteristics
 - c. likes and dislikes
 - d. questions directed to pen pal
3. The letter must include an appropriate closing and signature.

II. Process for Task

A. Pre-Writing: Group Activities

1. Students will brainstorm to generate a variety of appropriate words, expressions, and questions in the target language.
2. Students will ask and respond to appropriate personal questions in the target language: i.e., "How old are you?" or "What do you want to do?"
3. Students will construct sentences with the vocabulary generated.

B. Writing and Revision: Rough and Working Drafts-Individual and Pair Activities

1. Students will organize their ideas and sentences in rough draft form.
2. Students will read and correct each other's rough draft.
3. Students will revise their own letters.
4. Students will compose a working draft of their letter and submit it to the teacher.

C. Writing and Revision: Final Draft-Individual Activities

1. Teacher will examine working drafts, provide feedback, offer suggestions for improvement, and return drafts to students.
2. Students will revise their own letters.
3. Students will compose a final typed or printed copy of the letter and submit it to the teacher.

III. Evaluation

Letters will be evaluated using the grading rubric for writing.