

Guidelines for Success

Your Mission

Write an amazing letter of introduction to your eighth grade English teacher. This letter will fulfill three purposes:

- give your English teacher a full and vivid picture of who you are as an individual
- explain who you are as a reader and writer and learner in English class
- describe what you need from your teacher to have a successful and delightful year.

Audience

The letter is to your English teacher; no one else will read the letter.

Starting Points

- Who are you as an individual? Who/what has contributed to who you have become? How?
- What is important to you (as a person and as an English student)? Why?
- What do you need (in English class and in life)?
- What are your strengths and weaknesses as an English student? How do you plan on strengthening these weaknesses?
- How do you learn best?
- About what do you like to read/write? Why?
- What are you currently reading?
- What are your opinions about vocabulary study, reader responses, polished pieces, research, assigned novels, poetry, class discussions, reading selections, presentations, etc?
- What goals do you have for eighth grade English and/or eighth grade in general? How do you plan on reaching these goals?

Nitty Gritty Details

- minimum of one and a half pages typed
- minimum of two drafts
- final draft should be typed, double spaced
- staple drafts together with the final on top

Key Advice for Success

Exercise your creative muscles. Your letter needs to set you apart from the masses and serve as a meaningful beginning to our reading and writing journey. Draw on all that you have learned in life and in English class to write a meaningful and well-written letter. Make it unique, powerful, and memorable.

