

## Examples of Student Letters

Dear Bartholomew,

My name is David. I am a scholar at a good school. There are a lot more scholars in our school than three. There are roughly about 500 scholars.

In our world there are foods as good as chicken, like steak, fish, and one of my favorites is quail. I guess you like steak (cow). Well, we also have a lot of candy, which is bad for your health, but it tastes great.

In the U.S.A., a country, we don't have a king so we don't celebrate this birthday. We have holidays like Valentines Day where you celebrate love and Christmas where children get presents from a man named Santa Claus. As I said, we don't have a king, but we do have a president whose name is George Bush. What he does is make decisions for our whole country.

Well, let's talk about where I live. I live in a house that has a wood structure and is coated with more wood pieces called shingles. We also have a roof that is made out of wood, too. I own about half an acre, which is 50 yards.

Now that I told you about stuff, how about we talk about me? I have a sense of humor. I have brown hair and love sports. I am 4 feet,10 inches and love animals. I am more on the big side.

Well, that's not all there is about our country, but I seem to have writer's block, so that is all for now.

Sincerely,  
David

Dear Bartholomew,

I loved your letter! There are so many different ways I could respond to it, but I'll try to keep this short!

Here is a description of me. I'm almost 5 feet tall and weigh a lot, even though I'm not fat at all. In the winter, my hair is dark blond like the soil, and in the summer, it is light blond like a sunflower. I have eyes as blue as the sky. My favorite color is green. But enough about me, let me get on with the letter.

In the beginning of your letter, you said how lucky you were to be instructed in reading and other things. Well, where I live, everyone gets to go to school! So everyone is educated. In case you were wondering, school is where you are taught about reading and other things. Adults have to pay taxes for kids to go to school even if they don't have children! People that teach are called teachers. My teachers' names are Mrs. Watkins and Mrs. Pafford. They are both good and kind. They also have very good senses of humor. School is very fun where I live because of the celebrations, exciting games (that still help us learn), and recess (we get to go out and play). I love school!

The next thing I will tell you will shock you like a lightening bolt!!!! Where I live, we don't have kings that rule everyone and everything!!!! We have someone called the president, who is similar to a king yet extremely different. Kings get to do whatever they want. Our president's decisions must be approved by a special group of people. There are also people that help the president. All of these people are called the government. The government makes laws and sees that they are carried out. I bet this is a big shock to you, but don't relax yet, there are plenty more surprises to come!

Where I come from, we don't produce our own food! Farmers produce the food and send it to the grocery stores. Grocery stores are places where we buy the food. We have much more variety of food where I come from, as well as the food that you have. The food we have is actually better! An example of food we have that you don't is pizza. Pizza is cheese on top of tomato sauce, which is made of



tomatoes, on top of bread. Pizza is definitely as good as chicken! Our food is great!

Now I have some questions for you. Do you know what a cow is? What do you look like? Please answer back.

Even though I definitely didn't keep this short, I hope I gave you plenty of information! Please write back!

Sincerely,  
Jack

Dear Bartholomew,

My name is Sarah. I am nine years old with light brown hair and hazel eyes. I am the shortest person in my class, at only four feet and two inches tall. I am a good scholar, but I'd much rather be playing than studying. (Actually, most fourth graders would rather play too!!) I live in a small yellow house with lots of windows with my mother, my father, my guinea pig, Tinker Bell, my parakeet, Tweety Bird, my hermit crab, Andy, and my goldfish, Sammy.

Tinker Bell is furry and very cute. She has big, sparkly, brown eyes. Her ears are two different colors — one is black and one is brown. She has patches of white like the clouds that you see floating in the clear blue sky, patches of brown like the fresh soil you see under the crisp emerald grass, and patches of onyx like the night that is untouched by the living. Her nose is the color of a rose and twitches as fast as the change of seasons.

Tweety Bird is emerald green with a sunshine yellow face. She has as bad of a temper as the Grand Duke Wilfred III and bites me every time I stick my finger in her cage.

My other two pets are harder to describe. Andy's shell is all the colors of the rainbow. He has managed to escape from his cage two nights in a row. Sammy is not very exciting because he is a fish.

I like to go to this place called Burger King for dinner. I like the burgers there and they give you toys! Sometimes I go to other restaurants or Mom and Dad cook. I have lots of time for fun and I do get to eat things as good as chicken. I eat good things like chocolate, pizza, and jellybeans.

Before I end my letter, I have a few questions for you. First, what's a numskull? Second, do you like the other pages? Finally, I've always wondered what it's like to live in a castle. What is it like?

Bye for now!

Your new friend,  
Sarah

P.S. Write back soon.