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*?

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| **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 that 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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