

## **Writing Exercise: Voice -- Letter from a character**

While it is true that we don't write letters like we used to, this exercise asks you to imagine a piece of correspondence.

It is very effective if used with a character you have already created for another piece of writing as it allows you to imagine a different voice for this character, and a different way of expression.

Letters are a form of "intertext" – a text inserted into another text. These intertexts are amazingly useful things – they could be a how-to set of instructions, an archival document, etc; they can be fully fictional or "real". They allow another voice into the narrative.

Take a character from a piece you have written – in another exercise, in a story, whatever. (If you are stuck: take a character from fiction – favorite book or movie or tv show) and have them write a letter to someone describing an event from that story.

Make sure the receiver of the letter is specific: parent, best friend, sibling, former best friend, old teacher, Santa Claus, Member of Parliament.

You can even have the character write a letter to you, the author!!