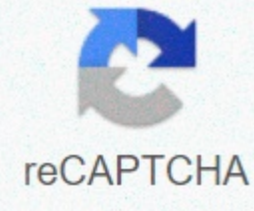




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How to write a persuasive letter to your parents

Death is the most natural thing, but it seems surreal, which is why most of us don't bother planning for it (plus it's kind of a disappointment). We've told you how to prepare for practical things, but there's the emotional side to thinking about, too. Consider writing a last letter. It is a reality of life that we will all die at some point. While it's not something you ... [Read more](#)The Doctor VJ Periyakoil details his experience with dying patients. She writes: The most common emotion they express is regret: regret that they never took the time to repair broken friendships and relationships; regret that they have never told their friends and family how much they care; regret that their children remember them as hypercritical mothers or authoritarian and demanding fathers. Based on this experience, Periyakoil launched the Stanford Friends and Family Letter Project. It is essentially an initiative that encourages patients to engage with their doctors and loved ones to communicate what matters most to them at the end of life. It means creating guidelines for their care, but it also means expressing their feelings to family and friends. Again, it's kind of a dark subject that most of us don't exactly embrace. The idea that you can leave this world without closure, however, is an even more unpleasant thought. The project site includes three templates that you can use: What matters most: it's a letter template that allows anyone to document what matters most to them and what treatments they want in the future. This tool is free and is available in print, as a form filled out online and as an iPhone and Android application in eight different languages. Project Advance Directive Letter: This tool allows anyone to answer a few simple questions in English. When they are finished and click print, the tool will send them an automatically completed valid advance directive document and an additional letter to their doctor outlining their preferences for end-of-life medical care. This tool is free and is available in print, in the form of a form filled out online and as an iPhone and Android App.Friends and Family Letter: This letter can help all adults accomplish their seven life-review tasks: recognizing important people in our lives; remember precious moments in our lives apologize to those we may have hurt; forgive those who have harmed us; and say thank you, I love you and goodbye. Help This model, you can write a letter to your friends and family in one of eight languages using an online form, an iPhone or Android app or a printable form. G/O Media can get a commissionHit the links above to check each model. You fill them out online, then you can print or send an email (you don't have to register or submit anything). To learn more about the initiative, visit [links](#) [links](#) Friends and Family Letter Project via The New York TimesPhoto by kburnett91 Out in a letter is a good option for those who express themselves best in writing. Writing can also help you organize and present your thoughts without distractions, nerves locking lips, an overload of emotion or interruption on the part of your family members. These suggestions can help you write a letter to family or friends. Don't run out of words. A letter is a great way to purge emotions and express your feelings at the same time. Give free rein to your thoughts. Try freestyle writing, where you write without stopping for a while. Then reorganize your thoughts to make them more consistent. Forget the rules. Your exit letter is not a paper term, and there is no standard format to follow. Organize your thoughts without dwelling on spelling, grammar or structure. Write about the past, present and future. In your letter, express how being in the closet made you feel and what it means for you to get out. Talk about your vision for the future and the importance of having their support. Don't make any assumptions. You know your family better and can anticipate a certain reaction, but they may surprise you. Keep in mind that each member of your family can treat information differently. So, in your letter, make sure you express yourself without attacking. Dispel myths. Your letter is a great place to educate your family and friends. Unravel myths, stereotypes or misconceptions they may have about LGBTQ people. Followed. Writing a letter is a very personal way of communicating. However, you should follow up and have a face-to-face discussion with your loved ones. Strengthen your thoughts. During your face-to-face meeting, reiterate the thoughts and feelings expressed in your letter. Make a bulletproof version of your letter and keep it on hand. This way, you can refer to it just in case you freeze during your person-to-person interviews. A letter of justification should provide concrete reasons why a request for leave at work should be made. Without a letter of justification, it can be difficult for an employer to make an informed decision. For example, when an employee requests leave, a letter of justification is used to explain the rationale for the application. It also helps the supervisor understand why it is necessary to miss the work. Since the application often addresses an important issue that is not work-related, a letter of justification must be written formally. The personal data of must be attached at the top, and a standard opening address, such as To whom this may concern, is recommended. A good letter of justification should be brief and clear. When writing, include the basic facts first to inform the receiver of all the key details. If the letter is a request to attend the funeral of a family member, family, describing the connection should be sufficient to get approval. A letter of justification should end with a polite statement asking the individual to review the application once again. An example is Please consider my request for free time as described above. A personal letter is a type of letter (or informal composition) that usually deals with personal (rather than professional) matters and is sent from person to person. This is longer than a dotted note or invitation and is often handwritten and mailed. A personal letter takes longer to write than the few abrupt sentences you type without rereading before clicking send; it takes longer to read than the flashing and deletion blitz that helps you purge your inbox; and it digs deeper than the brief handwritten note you post, write the authors Margaret Shepherd with Sharon Hogan, who are passionate about the decreasing art form in The Art of the Personal Letter: A Guide to Connecting Through the Written Word. They explain: A letter deals with issues that deserve more than a minute's attention. It aims to strengthen a relationship, not just to react to a situation. A letter is not limited to a specific message such as Can you come? or Thank you for the birthday check. On the contrary, it can take both the writer and the reader on an excursion that starts from a basis of mutual trust: I know you will be interested in what I think or I would like to hear your ideas on this subject. Whether it enters your life on screen or through the mail slot, the well thought out personal letter is irresistible to read aloud, ruminate, respond, reread and record. Good letter writing is very much like a good conversation, and it has the same power to nurture a relationship. Until just a few decades ago, personal letters (alongside diaries and autobiographies) had been the common form of personal communication written since the 18th century. It really took off at that time because of the widespread distribution of mass-produced paper, a sharp increase in literacy rates, the advent of the systematic dissemination of messages and the introduction of the postal system. However, the first letters date back to 500 BCE and to the ancient Persians. One of the first prose collections to be called a novel, Samuel Richardson Pamela, from 1740, was actually in the personal letter format, and this tome is not the only fiction book that has taken this format in the centuries from. The confluence of letters and books does not end there, though In non-fiction, families compile old letters in books for future generations, and famous historical figures have had their letters assembled into non-fiction works for posterity, either as a matter of recording or for historical value. Take, for example, collections of love letters between presidents and their wives, such as the 1,000,000 saved between Abigail and John Adams. Some of the greatest writers have seen their personal letters published as major works, often seen as discussions about literature, notes author Donald M. Hassler in the book, Encyclopedia of The Essay. An early example would be John Keats's letters, which were originally personal but now appear in collections of essays on literary theory. Thus, the ancient form continues to have an intriguing ambiguity of purpose and a vigorous potentiality in relation to the test form. But various innovations in e-communication in recent decades, such as e-mail and texting, have contributed to a decline in the practice of writing personal letters. It is rarer to see handwritten correspondence in the mailbox than common. Instead of having correspondents, people communicate with other people across the country and the world through social media. Even if blogs communicate in longer scripts than short-form tweets or quickie status updates, blog posts are always more impersonal than letters sent to a specific friend or relative; there is probably an expectation of more privacy, more for your eyes only when something comes hidden and wrapped with the name of a single person on it, more like a gift than a show on the airwaves of the known world. Today, writing personal letters is an art in decline, writes Robert W. Bly in Webster's New World Letter Writing Handbook. Hot letters have always had a powerful ability to build goodwill. And in the age of computers and e-mail, the old-fashioned personal letter stands out even more. Bly, Robert W. Webster's New World Letter Writing Handbook. Wiley, 2004. Knight, Tracy, editor. Letter by Donald M. Hassler. Encyclopedia of the essay, Fitzroy Dearborn Publishers, 1997. Richardson, Samuel, Pamela or Virtue rewarded. London: Messrs. Rivington and Osborn, 1740. Shepherd, Margaret with Sharon Hogan. The Art of Personal Letter: A Guide to Connecting Through Written Word. Broadway Books, 2008. 2008.