

Inspired by Ike's letters to his master in [Dear Mrs. LaRue](#) by Mark Teague, this third grader and this fourth grader wrote the following unusual letters, working on their voice and their word choice. Read each letter and talk about where you see good examples of these two writing traits.

The [picture book lesson](#) that inspired this writing can be found at the WritingFix website.

Dakota's House  
Highway 44  
January 14, 2009



Dear Freckles the Cat,

I would really love it if you would pretty please let me chase you. I can't chase you when your owner yells at me. I would appreciate it if you wouldn't hide from me. I promise I won't hurt you, if you let me chase you once in a while. I would also appreciate it if you wouldn't run up trees. The wood hurts my paws!

If you don't let me chase you, I'm stuck with my owner watching dumb shows and listening to my owner screech; they call it singing, but that's not what I hear!. It's terrible. If you would just let me chase you four days every week, I would be happy.

One other thing, around our owners, we don't get along! –Secret Friendship. Thank You!

Sincerely,

Shimms the Dog  
(and third-grader Dakota)

Aliens from the nine planets  
Unknown place  
February 20, 2008



Dear Humans of Planet Earth,

Are you insane? You are coming into our property of space and putting all this technology junk (space stations) right into our territory. You have your property, and we have ours. Don't go anywhere near outer space, or we will invade your planet. I mean, if that's OK, because we're not trying to be rude, of course.

Another reason, not only you are coming into our space, but you are also landing on our property with your space shuttles. Then you always explore the planet that you landed on. Is that rude or what!?

Can we satisfy the leaders of your planet by having some U.F.O.s stop by for a visit? If you get everything that you put in our galaxy out, then that can be arranged. The thing that we are really mad about is that you are going to shoot missiles at a satellite in space. That satellite, which you humans built, is as big a school bus. What if one of the missiles went at one of our planets?

You know that space probe thing that looks around Mars? I mean, come on. Now not only you humans are exploring, but you are also using machines! What if we started exploring your planet? Wouldn't that be embarrassing?

We need to calm down a second... there, that's better. We just hope that you humans will listen.

From the destroyers,

Aliens  
(and fourth-grader Trevor)