

"Dear future me..."
A Letter to Remember

Goal: To write a letter to your future self.	Standards: W.11-12.3 Write narratives to develop real or imagined experiences or events using effective technique, well-chosen details, and well-structured event sequences.
Product: Printed or hand-written letter + email through https://www.futureme.org/	DUE: Feb 11th, hardcopy + future.org submission

Purpose: In this mini unit, we have touched upon how we view identity, the factors that influence identity, how we identify ourselves, how we make choices, and how our identity and choices influence one another. It is important for us to continue these conversations with our future selves so that we may continue to improve upon ourselves and our lives. By writing a letter to our future selves, we can create a time capsule of our thoughts, feelings, desires, and life as we currently know it to savor and preserve for reflection, change, and growth.

Requirements:

- *Write a letter or email to your future self
- *A physical copy handed to the teacher
- *A digital copy sent to yourself on <https://www.futureme.org/> 5 years from now (choose email address wisely)
- *At least 1page (12 pt font, times new roman, single spaced)
- *Organized in letter/email format



Topics for paragraphs: (you may write them in any order)

Me, right now: Explain to the older “You” what hopes, fears, dreams, intentions, frustrations, joys, concerns, and emotions you hold now.

My Home: Refrain from describing your house, room, etc. and what they look like. It is your best attempt to describe to the later “you” where the present you feels at home. Is it the moment your feet touch off the ground on a basketball court? The anticipation of the lights dimming in a movie theater? The sometimes-overwhelming-possibility when you open a new book, or change the channel on your television, or get into a car for a vacation? Where are you most at home, as You? And how do you know that it is your home?

What I Do. Your hobbies/likes/loves/passions/feelings of callings. Not just something like “I like to draw,” but more – there is so much more to you than that statement. Why do you like to draw? What do you want to draw? What other types of art do you want to experiment with? What galleries and museums do you want to get lost in?

People in My Life. Who has impacted you to become “you,” today, in this moment? Are they people you know? Are they words from authors/filmmakers/singers/writers/poets? Are they the actions of athletes? Explain why and what impact you feel they have made on you to the later “you.”

My Future. Okay, this is the heavy one. What is it that you want to be? Want to do? Who do you hope to still be friends with? Who do you hope to make better relationships with? Don’t feel trapped to only talk about what you want to “do” for a career, but tell the future “you” what you want to experience. There’s a possibility that the job you end up having, you haven’t even heard of yet, so instead focus on what you want to do in life. If you want to travel, explain why...is it because you want to witness customs and cultures away from your home, to eat new types of “exotic” food, to meet people? Tell the future “you” what you hope “you” are doing.

Always: What internal resources do you inherently possess that will help you, now and always? (This I know to be true. What is your “this” about you?) How will you remember what you have to offer, and how will you continue to know yourself and your presence as a contribution to this world? What are ways that you can seek to love your future self no matter how much the future varies from what you expect it would be?

Procedure:

Step 1: Learn the proper letter writing format

Step 2: Begin answering the questions/topics, and formulate a general idea of how you wish to present your letter.

Step 3: Write your letter using proper format.

Step 4: Revise and edit your letter for cohesion, sense, and transitions.

Step 5: Go to futureme.org and copy and paste your letter.

Step 6: Select an email address you’ll still use/have access to and set it to send in 5 years from now.

Step 7: Confirm your account through the email they sent to create an account on futureme.org

Step 8: Print out or handwrite a hard copy of your letter, a confirmation of sent letter for futureme.org (screen shot, email confirm, etc.) and turn *both* into the teacher.

Feel free to add more information that what is required in your letter. If you wish to add more personalized information in the letter you send yourself through futureme.org that you don’t want me to see, that is fine as long as the copy that is turned in meets all the requirements. Regardless of what is included in the letter that is provided to me, all information will stay confidential.

Most of all: have fun! Ask yourself “Why?” after every statement. Question where your desires for things comes from, and do your best to explain to “You” in 5 years from now what you are like today, this moment, the last leg of your journey in high school. What things do you want to remember?