

TEACHING FOREIGN LANGUAGES K-12 WORKSHOP

Planning for Assessment > Examine the Topic

Georgia Letter Project Description > Page 1

Use the elements of a project description to analyze the following portfolio project description. Highlight the sections of text that correspond to each of the five elements.

Elements of a Project Description	
A	The desired performance task is described.
B	Authenticity of product and performance is achieved.
C	Criteria and performance standards are established for students.
D	Strategies useful to the task are made explicit.
E	The rubric is communicated and modeled.

End-of-Year Writing Assessment

Outcome: You need to produce a letter of introduction about yourself, written in Russian to a teenager in Georgia. Your letter will also be part of the "poster session" that Ms. Shuffelton will do in Chico, California, in July. She will be presenting information about Brighton High School to all 105 teachers from the former Soviet Union. She will also take the English and Russian versions of your letters to the school in Georgia in October.

Dates: Draft version of the Russian letter is due June 2 (Russian I, period 4; Russian II) or June 3 (Russian I, period 2; Russian III). There will be time during class for feedback and suggestions before you write your final draft.

Final version is due June 8 (Russian I, Russian II) or June 9 (Russian III).

Mechanics: Please provide a photograph of yourself to go with your letter. Handwritten letters are fine, or you may use a computer with a Russian font.

Length:

Russian I: 8-10 phrases

Russian II: 12-15 phrases

Russian III: 15-20 phrases

One purpose of this letter as an end-of-the-year assessment is to help you review some of the topics, vocabulary, and grammar that we have studied this year. Part of the assessment rubric is your ability to include a number of topics.

Russian I, II, III:

- Your name, gender, age, family, pets
 - Activities you like to do
 - School subjects
 - Where you live
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Georgia Letter Project Description > Page 2

- Places in Rochester
- Favorite book, movie, music, etc.
- Where you are going this summer

Russian II, III:

- Future profession
- Sports
- Favorite foods, food dislikes
- Weather in Rochester
- Appearance

Russian III:

- When you were little
- Free-time activities
- People you admire
- Values, concerns

Guidelines and Suggestions:

1. DO NOT use a language translator program on the computer. It is against school policy and will often give you the wrong words.
2. Stick to topics we have learned this year.
3. Vary your sentences so that not all of them start with *I*. Include some references to *we*, *he/she*, or *they*.
4. Use some connecting words such as *when*, *because*, and *where*.
5. Your English letter can include information that you don't know how to write in Russian. It should definitely not be a translation of your Russian letter, since you can write much more freely and completely in English. You do not need to limit your English vocabulary to easy words, but you should avoid slang. Even common expressions such as "hang out with my friends" would be difficult for the students in Georgia to understand.

Interpersonal and Presentational Speaking Performance Assessment

Interpersonal Skills	Linguistic Skills	Fluency Skills
Ability to maintain conversation	Appropriate vocabulary resources	Comprehensible pronunciation
Ability to make yourself understood	Ability to discuss various topics	Ability to speak at a fluent pace
Ability to understand and make appropriate responses	Ability to narrate rather than read	Appropriate intonation for questions and responses

