

Math 491 - Mathematical Writing  
Writing Assignment #1  
Due: By 4:00pm on Friday, January 18th

**Instructions:**

Your long lost Aunt Syzygy is reaching out to family members to reconnect with them after spending the last few years traveling the world. She writes you the following letter.

*Dear Niece or Nephew,*

*I have been traveling the world for the past 3 years and I have had many wonderful experiences during my travels. I have had the opportunity to meet many different people and to learn about their cultures and values. The world is so beautiful and so varied. It is filled with people who have many different passions, but all of them have the same goal. They want to be loved and to connect with others who share similar passions.*

*Now that I am moving back to Minnesota to start a new chapter in my life, I realize that I should get to know my family better. Although I have learned much about other cultures during my travels, I haven't spent enough time understanding the passions and pursuits of my own flesh and blood.*

*Please write me a letter describing something you are passionate about. You can tell me about your career plans or about something that you like to do recreationally. I just want to know about one thing that you love. Tell me when and how you discovered your passion and where it has led you. Tell me what you love about it and how you see it being a part of your future.*

*I truly look forward to getting to know you better and hope you'll be at our family reunion this summer!*

*Much Love,*

*Aunt Syzygy*

Respond to your Aunt Syzygy's request. Your response should be between 2 and 3 pages (try not to go beyond three pages because she will be reading many of these letters). Do your best to help her understand you through your letter. Your grade will be based on the depth and clarity of your exposition. For this assignment, you will not be graded explicitly on your grammar or mechanics, but you should make sure to write reasonably well.

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