I.E Weldon Secondary School

24 Weldon Road

Lindsay, ON

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Wednesday, November 18, 2015

Henley Street

Warwickshire, England

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Dear William Shakespeare,

I am long-time admirer of your works. In fact, I have nearly read each of your thirty-seven plays. From your biography, I have come to learn that the majority of your works are commenting on personal, social or political themes of your time, and some, such as *Romeo and Juliet*, are based on real life events. *Othello*, in particular, is one of my favorite tragedies, and I often wonder what served as your inspiration. Who or what inspired you to write it? Did you conduct extensive research of any kind?

I am also very interested in your brilliant use of language, and understand that you invented over 1,700 words that we now consider "common language." During your creative process, was it your intention to build the English language? Were theatre-goers taken aback, or did they come to expect it and perhaps even offer you suggestions?

Although you inspire me as a playwright, I am offended by the fact that you were a “deadbeat dad” and abandoned your wife and children for a life on the stage. Did you ever feel badly that you left your family? Did you miss them? Did you hope to be reunited with them?

Why do you think it is that people continue to study your work long after you have passed? What were your favourite texts? Do you think students should study your writing or should your plays simply be appreciated through performance?

Being an enthusiast of English Literature, your works continue to inspire me. I look forward to hearing more about your life and what you found inspirational.

Sincerely,

Jennifer Hunter

P.S. Love the collar!

Informal:

Do not write your letter as if a series of Text Messages. In a formal letter, you would not write:

"Billy, dat play doe."

OR

"*Othello* was TIGHT."

For a formal letter, you want your sentences to be complete and professional. Do not use colloquial speech (slang).