

Letter Example

Hello xxxxx,

How are you? I hope that you are well. My name is xxxxxx. You and I do not know each other. Nevertheless, a possibility exists that we share a genetic connection, which is the reason I am contacting you.

Approximately xxxxxx ago I discovered that I shared a DNA match with xxxxxx. Prior to that discovery, I had no idea I was genetically a xxxxxx. Indeed, I originally questioned the validity of my match with xxxxx. These results, coupled with some conventional genealogic research, indicate that xxxxx is my biological father. I hope to ultimately resolve the uncertainty of my genetic identity.

To the best of my abilities, I am attempting to imagine how I would feel if I were you at this moment, when a stranger has materialized stating that they may be a long-lost relative. I would have many questions, but the foremost question would be: What does this stranger want from me?

Please allow me to attempt to answer that important question.

What I hope to get from you is simple and yet profound; will you consider helping me uncover the truth of my (our?) DNA heritage? Nothing more, nothing less. I am not expecting, nor am I entitled to, anything from you beyond a nugget of DNA truth. I freely acknowledge that you are not obligated to assist me in any fashion; you owe me nothing. If you generously choose to offer your help, I will view your actions with gratitude and deference.

If you decide that assisting me is not in your best interests, I will respect your decision and bid you farewell. If you are willing to help, a possibility exists that you and I may ultimately create a friendship; I would consider that outcome to be a bonus. I do not know whether that will happen, but I do know that outcome can only happen with the passage of time. Just know that my heart and my mind are big enough and strong enough to open-up and welcome new people.

I never met xxxxx, but if he is my biological father, then I do owe a debt to him for giving me life. Please be assured that my purpose is not to render judgement of xxxxx or anyone else, I'm simply wishing to learn the authenticity of my being. Whatever occurred in the past is done and cannot be changed. While I hope to learn about the past, my actions will be directed towards today and the future.

Please also be aware that my life has been characterized by good fortune, for which I am grateful. I have more to tell, and I am eager to hear what you have to say, but I should keep this introductory message brief. If you are willing to be a part of my journey, in whatever capacity, then I hope that you will join me and see where the path leads.

Thank you – seriously, thank you – for your time and consideration.