Dear future host family,

my name is Hannah, I am 14 years old and I would like to tell you something about me and why I want to come to California next summer. I made this choice because I want to make some experiences for life, find new friends and get a taste of the real life in the USA (compared to when I spend a vacation with my family in the US).

First of all, thank you for taking the time to read my letter.

Let me introduce my family. These are my older sister, my parents, my two grandmas, my grandpa, my uncle who lives in Germany and my aunt and uncle who live in Switzerland. There are also my granduncle and my grandaunt. We are all in good contact and we celebrate every Christmas and birthday as a family. Some of my closest friends count as my family, too. My mom and my sister have both spent an exchange year in Upstate New York and we are still in contact with both host families.

A usual day in my life looks like this: After waking up I get ready. Then I go to have breakfast with my sister. In the summertime I ride the bike to school with some of my friends but usually I take the bus. When I am home again, we have lunch together as a family and talk about what happend in school that day and what is planned for this day. After that I go to my room and have a short break before I do my homework. In the afternoon I meet my friends and spend time with them, do my hobbies or do something for myself like being creative or reading — or study some more. In the evening we have dinner together and then I go to my room and have some free time again or we play some games as a family. Most of the time I watch TV before I go to sleep. At the weekend I can sleep longer what I really appreciate. We have breakfast together before everyone is going to do what needs to be done. Sometimes we meet some friends or go to a restauant with some friends.

I think like every child I also have some jobs to do in my family. For example: I need to empty and fill the dishwasher. Another Job is cleaning and setting the table. I also need to clean the bath- and bedroom. It's not my favorite thing to do but it is also not the worst thing. Sometimes I cook for my family or cook with them. It is a lot fun.

One of my favorite things to do is spending time with my friends and my family. When we are hanging out together, we often just talk and laugh and have fun. Sometimes we go to the cinema, play games or go shopping. I love doing movie nights with my closest friends. My favorite movies are the Marvel movies. I also enjoy watching "Friends" over and over again.

Moreover I am an empathic person. I care a lot about the people that are important to me. The most important thing is that they are happy. When my friends are sad I think that my mission is to make them happy again. I will always be there for them as they are for me. I think that is important in a good friendship and family.

I am a very creative person as well. I love doing presents by myself for others. For example, I did a photo book with funny memories for my best friend's birthday. Being creative helps me to relax. Moreover I have been doing Rope-skipping for over four years now. I also go swimming once a week. I have been doing it since I was six years old. Music is very important for me as well. I can relax when I listen to it. I love listening to Pop-music and sad music. I have been playing the piano for seven years. I like reading as well. My favourite books are action books.

I like to travel around the world with my family a lot. I have already been to Austria, to go skiing one time (I decided I don't like skiing though).

My aunt and my uncle live in Switzerland so we go there to visit them sometimes.

I have been on a cruise to Iceland this summer. Iceland has simply been amazing! The landcape is so different to what I am used to but just beautiful.

I have already been to London three times. London is one of my favorite cities in the world because there is so much to see and my favorite sight is Big Ben.

My families favorite vacation spot is Pentolina which is a small village in Tuscany, Italy. We have been there many times. We always explored different places in Tuscany. I loved the different food, the sunsets, meeting different people and reading by the pool.

I have already been to the USA four times. We have been to New York City, Upstate New York (visiting my mom's host parents) and Florida. I love Disney World! It is such a magic place! I really hope to add California to my list of places I have enjoyed so far.

I am really looking forward to meet you, spend time with you and if you ever had any questions about Germany you can ask me when I am there (and I will hopefully be able to answer them).

With kind regards,

Hannah

family Family Vacation

