

Letter to an Unknown Friend

Dear future friend,

My name is Irtem, I am a student at Ventspils University of Applied Sciences in Latvia where I study intercultural communication. I chose this programme because I was interested in how people from different cultures understand each other. In my free time, I like to take a walk towards the sea since I live not so far from it.

My hometown is Kyiv, the capital of Ukraine. What makes Kyiv unique is how different types of architecture are mixed in one city, where you can find centuries old cathedrals standing next to some modern glass offices and Soviet-style apartment buildings. In Ukrainian culture, people are usually expressive in communication. We often greet other people with a handshake.

Since I moved to Latvia, I've noticed some cultural differences: Ukrainians are often more open to conversation while Latvians can seem more reserved at the start, but once you get to know them better they become more friendly.

I would like to learn something unique about your

hometown and the way people communicate in your culture.
What do you like the most about living there and what is unique
about its culture? I look forward to getting to know you better
so we can learn something about communication and culture from
our experiences.

Best regards,
Artem