Dear Reader
Diagnostic Assignment Writing Exercise

Ultimately, the diagnostic assignment asks you to answer the following question: is [your choice] a letter? In preparation for Thursday's class, formulate an answer to this question, using the following format: [your choice] is/is not a letter because [insert your reason here]. This is your thesis. Copy it below.

Now list three concrete details that justify why your selection counts as a letter. This is your evidence.

Finally, briefly explain how each piece of evidence supports your thesis. This is your reasoning.

In class on Thursday, you will have the opportunity to discuss your thesis, evidence, and reasoning with a partner. Your goal is to convince your partner of your thesis. You might consider and discuss the following questions:

1. Do the evidence and reasoning support the claim? Why or why not?
2. Is there another way to read the evidence? If so, how? Does this change your thesis?