

## **Mrs. Flowers CRQ Thank-you note**

(20 sentences)

Dear Mrs. Flowers,

I know it has been many years since we last saw each other. I just wanted to say thank you for all the help you gave me when I was a young girl back in Stamps.

You taught me so many valuable lessons. The first that I remember was your insistence on the importance of language, that language makes us fully human and makes us different from other animals. Another lesson was the importance of reading aloud, that the human voice fills words with a deeper meaning. Most importantly, I learned from you not to look down on simple, country people who do not have many years of schooling. Because of you, I have met many “illiterate” people who are much wiser than I am despite all my sophisticated education.

Your kindness literally changed my life. That afternoon, when you offered me tea and cookies, I felt appreciated for the first time. Hearing you read aloud from Great Expectations was like hearing some miraculous music for the first time. I remember running into the street in a kind of daze. Most of all, it was that poem that you made me recite aloud that created for me an aura or special glow around literature. I could even make myself cry at the sound of my own voice as I began to read great literature aloud.

Ever since our meetings, I began speaking up more in school. I memorized many poems and would frequently say them aloud. Not only

poetry, but great works of literature from different countries and time periods, I often read aloud and try to fill those words with deeper meaning as you did for me years ago.

Thank you for the kindness you showed me. From the valuable lessons, to the tea and cookies, your intervention was a saving grace, a lifeline, that rescued me. I hope to pass on to others the good work you began in me.

Sincerely,

Marguerite Johnson