



## *Number the Stars* (1989), by Lois Lowry Persuasive Letter Template

Use this template to build the arguments that you will make in your final version of the letter. You will need to write out in full the final version of your letter.

In your first paragraph you should greet your friend Ellen, ask her how she is doing, and update her on what has happened to you since she last saw you the night before she escaped to Sweden.



In your next paragraph, you should introduce the question that you have been thinking a lot about – the question that was raised by your Uncle Henrik about whether not knowing the risks and dangers of some action can make someone *more* truly brave. You should frame the question as an important one in considering whether you think of yourself (and possibly the other people in the story) have been truly brave, and how brave you and they have been. Then you should state the conclusion you have reached about the question.

In your next paragraph you should begin by referring to a passage from the text – you can summarize it as an incident, but you can quote if the passage includes dialogue. You should then explain why this passage supports your conclusion about bravery.



In your next paragraph you should refer to a second passage from the text, just as above. And just as above you should explain why this passage supports your conclusion about bravery.

In your next paragraph you should refer to a third passage from the text, but this time make it one that could be read to support the opposite view to your own conclusion on bravery. Explain how it could be read that way, but that you believe that it can be better understood to support (or at least not to contradict) your conclusion.



In your letter's final paragraph, you should summarize what you have learned about what bravery means. Then tell Ellen why all of this important to you. Finally, bring the letter to a close with a personal comment, and well-wishes, to Ellen.