

character reference national honor society recommendation letter samples

character reference national honor society recommendation letter samples play a crucial role in supporting students' applications for this prestigious academic organization. These letters serve as a testament to the applicant's integrity, leadership, service, and academic excellence. Writing an effective character reference for the National Honor Society (NHS) requires a clear understanding of the qualities that NHS values and the ability to convey these traits persuasively. This article delves into the key components of character reference letters, provides practical advice on drafting compelling recommendations, and offers several samples to guide educators, mentors, and community leaders. Whether crafting a letter for a student or seeking examples to refine one's writing, the following sections cover everything needed to produce a standout NHS recommendation letter.

- Understanding the Importance of a Character Reference for NHS
- Key Elements of National Honor Society Recommendation Letters
- Tips for Writing Effective Character Reference Letters
- Character Reference National Honor Society Recommendation Letter Samples
- Common Mistakes to Avoid in NHS Recommendation Letters

Understanding the Importance of a Character Reference for NHS

A character reference for the National Honor Society recommendation letter samples highlight the personal qualities and achievements of students beyond their academic records. NHS emphasizes four pillars: scholarship, leadership, service, and character. Therefore, a character reference letter is essential to demonstrate how a student embodies these values in everyday life. The character reference helps the selection committee gain insight into the applicant's personality, ethical standards, and contributions to the school or community.

The Role of Character in NHS Selection

Character is a foundational pillar for NHS membership, representing the student's honesty, responsibility, fairness, respect, and concern for others. A strong character reference provides evidence of these traits, reinforcing the student's eligibility. It distinguishes candidates who not only excel academically but also exemplify integrity and moral fiber.

Who Should Write a Character Reference?

Typically, teachers, school counselors, coaches, community leaders, or employers familiar with the student's conduct and achievements write these letters. The recommender should have direct knowledge of the applicant's character and be able to provide specific examples that highlight their suitability for NHS membership.

Key Elements of National Honor Society Recommendation Letters

Effective character reference national honor society recommendation letter samples consistently include detailed descriptions of the student's strengths across NHS pillars. These letters must be clear, concise, and tailored to the individual's unique qualities.

Introduction and Relationship to the Student

The letter should begin with an introduction that states the recommender's name, position, and relationship to the student. This establishes credibility and context for the observations that follow.

Highlighting the Four Pillars of NHS

The core of the letter should focus on how the student exemplifies scholarship, leadership, service, and character. Each pillar can be addressed separately or integrated naturally, but specific examples and anecdotes should support claims.

Closing Statements and Endorsement

The letter should conclude with a strong endorsement of the student's candidacy for NHS membership. This section may include a summary of the student's potential contributions to the organization and confidence in their continued success.

Tips for Writing Effective Character Reference Letters

When composing character reference national honor society recommendation letter samples, certain best practices can enhance the letter's impact and professionalism.

Be Specific and Use Examples

General praise is less effective than detailed descriptions of the student's actions and behavior. Including specific instances where the student demonstrated leadership, service, or exceptional character strengthens the

letter.

Maintain a Professional and Positive Tone

The letter should be formal yet warm, reflecting admiration without exaggeration. Avoid overly casual language or unsubstantiated claims.

Keep the Letter Concise and Focused

Most recommendation letters are one page in length. Focus on the most relevant qualities and avoid unnecessary information to maintain the reader's attention.

Proofread and Edit Carefully

Errors in grammar, spelling, or formatting can undermine the letter's credibility. Thorough proofreading ensures clarity and professionalism.

- Identify the student's strongest qualities related to NHS criteria.
- Use clear, direct language to describe these qualities.
- Include measurable achievements or contributions where possible.
- Express genuine support for the student's nomination.
- Ensure the letter is personalized rather than generic.

Character Reference National Honor Society Recommendation Letter Samples

Reviewing sample letters can provide valuable guidance on structure, tone, and content. Below are three examples of character reference national honor society recommendation letter samples tailored for different recommenders.

Sample 1: Teacher Recommendation Letter

To the National Honor Society Selection Committee,

I am pleased to write this letter recommending Jane Doe for membership in the National Honor Society. As Jane's English teacher for the past two years, I have witnessed her exceptional dedication to academic excellence, leadership in the classroom, and commitment to service.

Jane consistently demonstrates outstanding scholarship, maintaining a GPA of 4.0 while engaging actively in class discussions. She served as the president of our school's literary club, leading initiatives that increased student participation and community outreach. Her character is evident in her respectful interactions with peers and faculty and her willingness to support

classmates struggling with coursework.

Jane's volunteer work at the local food bank further exemplifies her service ethos. I am confident she will uphold the high standards of the National Honor Society and contribute positively to its mission.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Smith
English Teacher

Sample 2: Community Leader Recommendation Letter

Dear NHS Selection Committee,

It is my honor to recommend John Smith for the National Honor Society. As the coordinator of the community youth program, I have observed John's leadership and character in various service activities over the past year.

John spearheaded a neighborhood clean-up initiative, organizing volunteers and securing resources. His ability to motivate others and take responsibility is a testament to his leadership skills. Beyond this, John's integrity and kindness make him a role model for his peers.

His academic achievements complement his service and leadership, making him an ideal candidate for the National Honor Society.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Johnson
Community Program Coordinator

Sample 3: School Counselor Recommendation Letter

To Whom It May Concern,

I am delighted to endorse Emily Brown for the National Honor Society. As Emily's school counselor, I have had the opportunity to observe her growth academically and personally.

Emily exemplifies the qualities of scholarship, leadership, service, and character through her involvement in student government, academic clubs, and volunteer work. She consistently demonstrates empathy, responsibility, and a strong ethical foundation.

It is without reservation that I recommend Emily for NHS membership, confident she will continue to exemplify these values.

Regards,

Mr. Lee
School Counselor

Common Mistakes to Avoid in NHS Recommendation Letters

While character reference national honor society recommendation letter samples can be invaluable, it is equally important to recognize common pitfalls that weaken a letter's effectiveness.

Using Vague or Generic Language

Letters that lack specific examples or rely on clichés fail to distinguish the student. Avoid phrases like “she is a good student” without supporting evidence.

Overemphasizing Academic Performance Alone

Though scholarship is important, NHS values leadership, service, and character equally. Letters should address all four pillars comprehensively.

Writing Lengthy or Unfocused Letters

Excessively long letters can lose the reader’s interest. Stay focused on relevant qualities and maintain clarity.

Neglecting to Proofread

Spelling mistakes, grammatical errors, or formatting issues diminish professionalism and can negatively influence the selection committee.

- Do not use clichés without examples.
- Avoid focusing only on grades.
- Keep the letter concise and purposeful.
- Ensure correct spelling and grammar.
- Personalize each letter to the specific student.

Frequently Asked Questions

What is a character reference in a National Honor Society recommendation letter?

A character reference in a National Honor Society recommendation letter highlights the applicant's personal qualities such as integrity, responsibility, leadership, and respect for others, demonstrating why they are a suitable candidate for the NHS.

How should I format a National Honor Society recommendation letter sample?

A National Honor Society recommendation letter should have a formal letter format including the date, recipient's name and title, a clear introduction stating the purpose, body paragraphs detailing the student's qualifications

and character traits, and a closing statement with the recommender's contact information and signature.

What key qualities should be emphasized in a National Honor Society character reference?

Key qualities to emphasize include leadership, scholarship, service, and character, as these are the four pillars of the National Honor Society. Providing specific examples of these traits strengthens the recommendation.

Can teachers use sample letters to write NHS recommendation letters?

Yes, teachers can use National Honor Society recommendation letter samples as templates to help structure their letters and include important points, but they should personalize the content to reflect the individual student's achievements and character.

Where can I find reliable National Honor Society recommendation letter samples?

Reliable NHS recommendation letter samples can be found on educational websites, school counseling resources, official NHS websites, and reputable academic blogs that provide guidance on letter writing for honor societies.

How long should a National Honor Society recommendation letter be?

A National Honor Society recommendation letter is typically one page long, concise yet detailed enough to cover the student's qualifications, character, and specific examples that support their candidacy.

What tone is appropriate for a National Honor Society character reference letter?

The tone should be professional, positive, and sincere, reflecting genuine support for the student's application while maintaining formality appropriate for academic recommendations.

Should extracurricular activities be included in an NHS recommendation letter sample?

Yes, mentioning relevant extracurricular activities that demonstrate leadership, service, and commitment can strengthen the NHS recommendation letter by showcasing the student's involvement and dedication beyond academics.

Additional Resources

1. Writing Effective National Honor Society Recommendation Letters

This book offers detailed guidance on crafting compelling recommendation letters for National Honor Society candidates. It includes sample letters,

tips on highlighting character traits, and advice on tailoring each letter to the student's strengths. Educators and counselors will find this resource invaluable for supporting students' applications.

2. Character Reference Samples for Academic Honors

A comprehensive collection of character reference letters aimed at various academic honor programs, including the National Honor Society. The book provides templates and examples that emphasize integrity, leadership, and service. Readers will learn how to personalize letters to best represent a student's unique qualities.

3. The Art of Writing Recommendation Letters

Focused on the nuances of recommendation writing, this book helps readers understand what makes a letter persuasive and authentic. It covers different contexts, including honor societies, scholarships, and college admissions. Practical advice and sample letters make it an essential tool for educators and mentors.

4. National Honor Society: A Guide to Membership and Recommendations

This guidebook explains the National Honor Society's criteria and the importance of recommendation letters in the selection process. It includes sample letters and checklists to assist teachers in evaluating and endorsing candidates. The book also offers strategies for encouraging students to develop their leadership and service skills.

5. Sample Letters of Recommendation for Student Awards

Designed for various student awards, this collection includes sample recommendation letters emphasizing character, academic achievement, and extracurricular involvement. It provides templates that can be customized for National Honor Society recommendations. The book is suitable for teachers, coaches, and advisors.

6. Character and Leadership: Writing Letters of Recommendation for Honor Societies

This resource focuses on how to effectively communicate a student's character and leadership qualities in recommendation letters. It highlights key attributes valued by honor societies like NHS and offers sample letters to illustrate best practices. Readers will gain insights into crafting impactful endorsements.

7. How to Write Stellar Recommendation Letters for National Honor Society

A step-by-step guide that breaks down the process of writing strong recommendation letters specifically for NHS candidates. It includes examples that showcase students' service, scholarship, leadership, and character. The book aims to help recommenders articulate their endorsements clearly and convincingly.

8. Recommendation Letters for School Awards and Honors

This book compiles a variety of recommendation letter examples for school-based awards, including the National Honor Society. It emphasizes the importance of specificity and sincerity in letters. Teachers and counselors can use the provided templates to create personalized and effective recommendations.

9. Building Character Through Recommendation Letters: National Honor Society Edition

This edition focuses on the role of recommendation letters in reflecting and promoting student character development within the NHS framework. It offers sample letters that balance academic achievements with personal virtues. The

book serves as a guide for educators committed to fostering integrity and leadership in students.

Character Reference National Honor Society Recommendation Letter Samples

Character Reference National Honor Society Recommendation Letter Samples

Unlock the Secrets to Writing Powerful Recommendation Letters that Guarantee Acceptance into the National Honor Society!

Are you struggling to write a compelling character reference for a student applying to the National Honor Society? Do you feel overwhelmed by the pressure to perfectly capture their qualities and achievements in a limited space? Fear of not doing justice to a deserving candidate, and ultimately hindering their chances, keeps you up at night. You know a strong letter is crucial, but crafting one that truly shines is proving more difficult than expected. This ebook provides you with the tools and templates you need to write impactful recommendations that highlight the applicant's unique strengths and increase their chances of acceptance.

"The Ultimate Guide to Writing Winning National Honor Society Recommendation Letters" by Dr. Emily Carter, Educational Consultant

Contents:

Introduction: Understanding the Importance of Character References in NHS Applications

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The Ultimate Guide to Writing Winning National Honor Society Recommendation Letters

Introduction: Understanding the Importance of Character References in NHS Applications

The National Honor Society (NHS) is a prestigious academic organization recognizing students who excel in scholarship, leadership, service, and character. While academic transcripts and GPA demonstrate scholarship, the character reference letter provides crucial insight into a student's overall profile. It's an opportunity to showcase qualities often missed in a purely academic evaluation. This letter isn't just a formality; it's a powerful advocate for the applicant, providing a personal perspective that can significantly influence the selection committee's decision. A well-written recommendation letter can be the deciding factor in a close application. This guide provides a structured approach to writing a recommendation letter that highlights the applicant's strengths and increases their chances of acceptance.

Chapter 1: Identifying Key Qualities and Achievements: Uncovering the Applicant's Strengths

Before putting pen to paper (or fingers to keyboard), take the time to thoroughly understand the applicant. This is not merely about listing achievements; it's about discovering the essence of the student. This involves:

Gathering Information: Request detailed information from the student including their resume, transcripts, extracurricular involvement, volunteer work, and any significant accomplishments. Don't hesitate to request examples that showcase their character.

Personal Interaction: Have a conversation with the student. Ask open-ended questions to understand their motivations, challenges, and how they overcome obstacles. Look for specific examples of their leadership, service, and character traits. What are their goals? How do they interact with others? What makes them unique?

Focusing on NHS Pillars: Recall the four pillars of the NHS: Scholarship, Leadership, Service, and Character. Identify specific instances where the applicant demonstrated each of these qualities. These examples will form the backbone of your letter. For example, instead of saying "She is a leader," you might say, "As captain of the debate team, she successfully mentored new members, leading them to a regional championship victory."

Chapter 2: Structuring Your Letter: Crafting a Compelling Narrative

A well-structured letter is as crucial as its content. A chronological approach often works best. Consider this structure:

Introduction: Start with a strong opening that immediately grabs the reader's attention and establishes your credibility. Briefly state your relationship with the applicant and the duration you've known them.

Body Paragraphs (3-4): Devote each paragraph to a specific aspect of the applicant's character, drawing on specific anecdotes and examples to illustrate each point. Focus on the four NHS pillars (Scholarship, Leadership, Service, and Character), providing concrete examples of how the applicant embodies these qualities.

Concluding Paragraph: Reiterate your strong endorsement of the applicant and confidently express your belief in their suitability for the NHS. End with a concise and positive summary.

Chapter 3: Show, Don't Tell: Using Specific Examples and Anecdotes

Avoid vague generalizations. Instead of saying "He is hardworking," describe a specific instance illustrating this. For example: "He consistently stayed late after school to complete challenging physics assignments, demonstrating an unwavering commitment to academic excellence." Specific examples provide compelling evidence and make your letter far more persuasive. Anecdotes should be relevant, concise, and illustrate the applicant's positive qualities.

Chapter 4: Mastering the Tone and Style: Professionalism and Personal Touch

Maintain a professional and formal tone throughout your letter. Use proper grammar and spelling. However, inject a personal touch that reflects your genuine admiration for the applicant. Avoid overly effusive praise that may sound insincere. Balance professionalism with warmth and sincerity. Remember, the selection committee is looking for genuine insight, not just flattery.

Chapter 5: Sample Letters: Analyzing Effective Recommendations (with variations for different applicant strengths)

This chapter will include several sample recommendation letters demonstrating various writing styles and highlighting different student strengths. These examples illustrate the effective application of the principles discussed in previous chapters, showing how different strengths are showcased in a compelling manner. Variations will be provided showcasing students strong in leadership, service, scholarship, and character respectively.

Chapter 6: Proofreading and Polishing: Ensuring a Professional Presentation

Before submitting your letter, meticulously proofread for grammar, spelling, and punctuation errors. Have a colleague review it for clarity and conciseness. Ensure your letter is free of any typos or grammatical errors, as these can significantly detract from the overall impression. A well-polished letter shows attention to detail and respect for the selection committee.

Conclusion: Final Tips for Success and Increasing Chances of Acceptance

Writing a strong character reference is an investment in the applicant's future. By following these steps, you can craft a letter that showcases the applicant's true potential and significantly enhances their chances of acceptance into the NHS. Remember, your letter is a powerful endorsement of their character and capabilities, so take the time to write it well.

FAQs

1. How long should a National Honor Society recommendation letter be? Aim for one page, typically 300-500 words.
2. What if I haven't known the student for a long time? Focus on the time you have known them, highlighting specific instances demonstrating their qualities.
3. What if the student hasn't achieved exceptional grades? Focus on their other strengths - leadership, service, and character.
4. How do I address the recommendation letter? Address it formally to the National Honor Society selection committee.
5. Can I use templates? Use templates as a guide, but personalize them significantly to reflect the individual applicant's unique qualities.
6. What if I don't know the student well enough to write a strong letter? It's better to decline than to write a weak recommendation.
7. Should I mention any weaknesses? Focus on strengths. Mentioning weaknesses can be detrimental.

8. When is the deadline for submitting the letter? Check the specific deadline provided by the school or NHS chapter.
9. How can I ensure my letter is impactful? Use concrete examples, strong verbs, and a clear and concise writing style.

Related Articles:

1. Writing Effective Recommendation Letters for College Applications: Explores broader strategies for writing strong recommendation letters, including tips on structuring, tone, and content.
2. How to Showcase Leadership Skills in a Recommendation Letter: Focuses specifically on highlighting leadership qualities in a compelling manner.
3. The Importance of Service in National Honor Society Applications: Discusses the significance of service contributions and how to highlight them effectively.
4. Demonstrating Character in a Recommendation Letter: Examples and Best Practices: Provides specific examples and actionable advice on showcasing character.
5. Avoiding Common Mistakes in Recommendation Letters: Identifies frequent errors and offers solutions to ensure a polished and impactful letter.
6. Creating a Compelling Narrative in Your Recommendation Letter: Discusses the art of storytelling and using anecdotes to convey the applicant's qualities.
7. National Honor Society Selection Criteria: A Comprehensive Guide: Provides in-depth information on the criteria used by NHS selection committees.
8. Tips for Students Applying to the National Honor Society: Offers advice and guidance directly to the students applying.
9. The Role of Extracurricular Activities in NHS Applications: Explains how extracurricular activities demonstrate the four NHS pillars and should be highlighted in recommendation letters and applications.

character reference national honor society recommendation letter samples: Ask a Manager Alison Green, 2018-05-01 From the creator of the popular website Ask a Manager and New York's work-advice columnist comes a witty, practical guide to 200 difficult professional conversations—featuring all-new advice! There's a reason Alison Green has been called "the Dear Abby of the work world." Ten years as a workplace-advice columnist have taught her that people avoid awkward conversations in the office because they simply don't know what to say. Thankfully, Green does—and in this incredibly helpful book, she tackles the tough discussions you may need to have during your career. You'll learn what to say when • coworkers push their work on you—then take credit for it • you accidentally trash-talk someone in an email then hit "reply all" • you're being micromanaged—or not being managed at all • you catch a colleague in a lie • your boss seems

unhappy with your work • your cubemate's loud speakerphone is making you homicidal • you got drunk at the holiday party Praise for Ask a Manager "A must-read for anyone who works . . . [Alison Green's] advice boils down to the idea that you should be professional (even when others are not) and that communicating in a straightforward manner with candor and kindness will get you far, no matter where you work."—Booklist (starred review) "The author's friendly, warm, no-nonsense writing is a pleasure to read, and her advice can be widely applied to relationships in all areas of readers' lives. Ideal for anyone new to the job market or new to management, or anyone hoping to improve their work experience."—Library Journal (starred review) "I am a huge fan of Alison Green's Ask a Manager column. This book is even better. It teaches us how to deal with many of the most vexing big and little problems in our workplaces—and to do so with grace, confidence, and a sense of humor."—Robert Sutton, Stanford professor and author of *The No Asshole Rule* and *The Asshole Survival Guide* "Ask a Manager is the ultimate playbook for navigating the traditional workforce in a diplomatic but firm way."—Erin Lowry, author of *Broke Millennial: Stop Scraping By and Get Your Financial Life Together*

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world.

character reference national honor society recommendation letter samples: Bulletin of the Atomic Scientists, 1979-03

character reference national honor society recommendation letter samples: College Essay Essentials Ethan Sawyer, 2016-07-01 Let the College Essay Guy take the stress out of writing your college admission essay. Packed with brainstorming activities, college personal statement samples and more, this book provides a clear, stress-free roadmap to writing your best admission essay. Writing a college admission essay doesn't have to be stressful. College counselor Ethan Sawyer (aka The College Essay Guy) will show you that there are only four (really, four!) types of college admission essays. And all you have to do to figure out which type is best for you is answer two simple questions: 1. Have you experienced significant challenges in your life? 2. Do you know what you want to be or do in the future? With these questions providing the building blocks for your essay, Sawyer guides you through the rest of the process, from choosing a structure to revising your essay, and answers the big questions that have probably been keeping you up at night: How do I brag in a way that doesn't sound like bragging? and How do I make my essay, like, deep? College Essay Essentials will help you with: The best brainstorming exercises Choosing an essay structure The all-important editing and revisions Exercises and tools to help you get started or get unstuck College admission essay examples Packed with tips, tricks, exercises, and sample essays from real students who got into their dream schools, College Essay Essentials is the only college essay guide to make this complicated process logical, simple, and (dare we say it?) a little bit fun. The perfect companion to The Fiske Guide To Colleges 2020/2021. For high school counselors and college admission coaches, this is an essential book to help walk your students through writing a stellar, authentic college essay.

character reference national honor society recommendation letter samples: Finding What Works in Health Care Institute of Medicine, Board on Health Care Services, Committee on Standards for Systematic Reviews of Comparative Effectiveness Research, 2011-07-20 Healthcare decision makers in search of reliable information that compares health interventions increasingly turn to systematic reviews for the best summary of the evidence. Systematic reviews identify, select, assess, and synthesize the findings of similar but separate studies, and can help clarify what is known and not known about the potential benefits and harms of drugs, devices, and other healthcare services. Systematic reviews can be helpful for clinicians who want to integrate research findings into their daily practices, for patients to make well-informed choices about their own care, for professional medical societies and other organizations that develop clinical practice guidelines. Too often systematic reviews are of uncertain or poor quality. There are no universally accepted standards for developing systematic reviews leading to variability in how conflicts of interest and biases are handled, how evidence is appraised, and the overall scientific rigor of the process. In Finding What Works in Health Care the Institute of Medicine (IOM) recommends 21 standards for developing high-quality systematic reviews of comparative effectiveness research. The standards address the entire systematic review process from the initial steps of formulating the topic and building the review team to producing a detailed final report that synthesizes what the evidence shows and where knowledge gaps remain. Finding What Works in Health Care also proposes a framework for improving the quality of the science underpinning systematic reviews. This book will serve as a vital resource for both sponsors and producers of systematic reviews of comparative effectiveness research.

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character reference national honor society recommendation letter samples: The Coding Manual for Qualitative Researchers Johnny Saldana, 2009-02-19 The Coding Manual for Qualitative Researchers is unique in providing, in one volume, an in-depth guide to each of the

multiple approaches available for coding qualitative data. In total, 29 different approaches to coding are covered, ranging in complexity from beginner to advanced level and covering the full range of types of qualitative data from interview transcripts to field notes. For each approach profiled, Johnny Saldaña discusses the method's origins in the professional literature, a description of the method, recommendations for practical applications, and a clearly illustrated example.

character reference national honor society recommendation letter samples: Beyond the HIPAA Privacy Rule Institute of Medicine, Board on Health Care Services, Board on Health Sciences Policy, Committee on Health Research and the Privacy of Health Information: The HIPAA Privacy Rule, 2009-03-24 In the realm of health care, privacy protections are needed to preserve patients' dignity and prevent possible harms. Ten years ago, to address these concerns as well as set guidelines for ethical health research, Congress called for a set of federal standards now known as the HIPAA Privacy Rule. In its 2009 report, *Beyond the HIPAA Privacy Rule: Enhancing Privacy, Improving Health Through Research*, the Institute of Medicine's Committee on Health Research and the Privacy of Health Information concludes that the HIPAA Privacy Rule does not protect privacy as well as it should, and that it impedes important health research.

character reference national honor society recommendation letter samples: Albion's Seed David Hackett Fischer, 1991-03-14 This fascinating book is the first volume in a projected cultural history of the United States, from the earliest English settlements to our own time. It is a history of American folkways as they have changed through time, and it argues a thesis about the importance for the United States of having been British in its cultural origins. While most people in the United States today have no British ancestors, they have assimilated regional cultures which were created by British colonists, even while preserving ethnic identities at the same time. In this sense, nearly all Americans are Albion's Seed, no matter what their ethnicity may be. The concluding section of this remarkable book explores the ways that regional cultures have continued to dominate national politics from 1789 to 1988, and still help to shape attitudes toward education, government, gender, and violence, on which differences between American regions are greater than between European nations.

character reference national honor society recommendation letter samples: The Financial Crisis Inquiry Report Financial Crisis Inquiry Commission, 2011-05-01 The Financial Crisis Inquiry Report, published by the U.S. Government and the Financial Crisis Inquiry Commission in early 2011, is the official government report on the United States financial collapse and the review of major financial institutions that bankrupted and failed, or would have without help from the government. The commission and the report were implemented after Congress passed an act in 2009 to review and prevent fraudulent activity. The report details, among other things, the periods before, during, and after the crisis, what led up to it, and analyses of subprime mortgage lending, credit expansion and banking policies, the collapse of companies like Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac, and the federal bailouts of Lehman and AIG. It also discusses the aftermath of the fallout and our current state. This report should be of interest to anyone concerned about the financial situation in the U.S. and around the world. THE FINANCIAL CRISIS INQUIRY COMMISSION is an independent, bi-partisan, government-appointed panel of 10 people that was created to examine the causes, domestic and global, of the current financial and economic crisis in the United States. It was established as part of the Fraud Enforcement and Recovery Act of 2009. The commission consisted of private citizens with expertise in economics and finance, banking, housing, market regulation, and consumer protection. They examined and reported on the collapse of major financial institutions that failed or would have failed if not for exceptional assistance from the government. News Dissector DANNY SCHECHTER is a journalist, blogger and filmmaker. He has been reporting on economic crises since the 1980's when he was with ABC News. His film *In Debt We Trust* warned of the economic meltdown in 2006. He has since written three books on the subject including *Plunder: Investigating Our Economic Calamity* (Cosimo Books, 2008), and *The Crime Of Our Time: Why Wall Street Is Not Too Big to Jail* (Disinfo Books, 2011), a companion to his latest film *Plunder The Crime Of Our Time*. He can be reached online at www.newsdissector.com.

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