

December 28, 1995

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN
RE:OLIWIA MARCZUK

I had this privilege that I taught Polish language to Oliwia Marczuk in the primary school. For the first time in my teaching career I was lucky to meet a girl of such genius mind, magnificent abilities and talent. Her uncommon linguistical intuition, vocabulary and knowledge stepping much beyond the level of high school appeared during discussions of every literary composition, where Oliwia, as the only one, always formulated deep, individual interpretations, bringing into prominence the connection of literature with history and philosophy of existence. Her knowledge in this field is indeed amazing. Those diverse ways of expressing thoughts and establishing ethical connections surprised greatly her classmates, and motivated them into deeper reflection on the subject.

I must gladly admit that Oliwia's comprehension of literary compositions was not limited only in the interest to the Polish authors but was expended by her enthusiasm for the literature of foreign authors, as well. What is most important, and what stands out is the fact that her oral or written presentation, every literary work was very creative, very original and individual expression of thoughts. She was finding new interpretations, interpretations unrepeatable.

Till now I have not encountered a student which would show such linguistical talent, ability often expressed by Oliwia in her mature lyrics that always fascinated me with depth and the manner she looked upon the life through the eyes of literature.

The best proof of the unusuality of her talent let be the fact that in the literature competition entered by over 120 students previously selected as the best in their areas, Oliwia received the highest mark on the written test and so impressed final judges in the oral test that she was placed first in the region. As the only

one, answering questions touching the issues of psychological, historical and political backgrounds she amazed, put in admiration, and pleasantly surprised judges, with rich knowledge of literature extrapolating far beyond the scope of school canon. Jury gave her the highest mark and did not hide their great astonishment. It never happened before, that anyone gave such answers, and shown such wonderful interpretation of literary compositions. Similar situation took place during Declaratory Competition entered by 110 students (best in their schools, town areas, and regions). Again individual and original interpretation of literary piece, composed of lyrics and prose, have put Oliwia in the first place at the same time opening for her door to the performance at the Lubuski Theatre of Zielona Gora.

Her unrepeatable style of written and oral expression, selection of vocabulary from beyond the level of high school was a wonderful experience. It was a joy to read her papers and listen to the individual discussions led by her. I would wish every teacher such a student, because work with her is indeed splendid, it is the pure pleasure of being an educator. Her input in my class made those five years memorable.

After having taught many students at the primary school and high school level there is no student I can rank higher than Oliwia Marczuk, she is the brightest student by far—she is everything that teacher hopes for.

I wish her well at Harvard University, knowing that whatever she tries will be the best, and that she will succeed in the university studies. As her former teacher I wish her all the best.

In the case of any further questions, please do not hesitate to call me.

Yours faithfully
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