**Dear \_\_\_\_\_\_,**

The Yale Admissions Committee has completed its evaluation of this year's candidates, and I write with sincere regret to say that we are not able to offer you a place in the class of 2011.

I realize that this decision may come as a real disappointment. I also hope that you will understand the decision as a reflection only of the extraordinary talent represented in our applicant pool, not a judgment about your own abilities. Of the more than nineteen thousand individuals who applied to Yale, most are fully capable of doing successful work and making a unique contribution to the Yale community. It is painful to us that we must turn away so many superbly talented students.

You may be tempted to ask what was lacking in your application. In truth, it is usually difficult for us to point to obvious weaknesses, when so many applicants have demonstrated real achievement and potential for the future. Our decisions say far more about the small number of spaces available and the difficult choices we make than they do about a candidate's personal and academic promise.

While regretting that we were not able to respond positively to your interest in Yale, I want to wish you every success in your educational pursuits. Experience suggests that regardless of our decisions, most of our candidates will be welcomed by other outstanding colleges. I extend my best wishes for the coming year.

Sincerely,

Jeffrey Brenzel

Dean of Undergraduate Admissions