Dear Grandma'am,

Hallo, how are you doing? Our new teacher in the school house has asked that we send a dictation to some of our kin. This is why I am writing to you today.

Today was a relatively good day as I was able to finish hauling in the water from the outside pump before the sun came up over the prairie. This gave me extra time to help Pa light the new gas lamps in the cabin. Pa says that by and by the entire town will use these new gas lamps.

As usual, I walked to school today with my two younger sisters and my friend, Fred, who you met last year at the barn raising. Fred can sometimes be wiry, but in the pinch of the game, he is a good friend to me.

Just a few moments ago we came in from midday break. In my lunch pail today, Ma packed me a great lunch with the last of the ham we butchered from Uncle Dan's house wrapped up in a slapjack leftover from breakfast. After lunch, my classmates gathered apples in the pasture behind the school for a treat before we came inside for afternoon lessons. While out there, a deer ran behind the trees! Most of us have never seen a deer. They are getting very scarce around our parts.

Tonight I will get to ride home in Mary's buggy. Not many people have a buggy in our town so I am excited to ride in one for the first time. This will let me get home faster for evening chores, finishing up chopping the wood. It is easier to work in the evening wind now that Ma has sewn patches over the holes in my overalls.

I hope our paths cross this year.

In Love and Family,

Dakota