To: Jimmy S  
Subject: Vacation!!!!!!!!!

Hey, Jimmy. How are you?

Vacation is going great. As you know, I wasn’t too thrilled when Dad said we were coming to the Flying Lasso Ranch, but I have to admit that it's been a blast so far.

After we arrived on Sunday, we met Billy, who works with the livestock on the ranch. They raise cattle here, along with some chickens and pigs. Billy showed us around the barnyard and corral, where we saw a newborn foal that was only two days old—that was cool. Sunday night we had a big welcome dinner on the patio of the lodge, and the main course was an enormous kettle full of chili con carne. Yum!

Since then, we’ve been for rides every day on the ranch. On Monday, all the guests rode burros down into a nearby canyon, where we saw some incredible rock formations and some strange desert plants that I’ve never seen before. Lots of the plants had spines, or sharp needles, like the cactus and the prickly pear we saw. As the sun went down, we rode up out of the canyon and onto the mesa to make our way home. We heard a coyote howling in the distance, which gave me goose bumps! I so was glad to get back to the ranch safe and sound.

Well, my siesta (that’s what they call an afternoon break around here) is just about over, so I’ll say bye for now. Talk to you when I get home!

Later,
Bradley