

# **PEN PALS**

*Submission for busha special category*

To: [damiis15@gmail.com](mailto:damiis15@gmail.com)

Cc/Bcc, From: [hereattwentyfive@gmail.com](mailto:hereattwentyfive@gmail.com)

Subject: Pen pals?

Hello Oluwadamilola,

I must say it was a good surprise finding another Nigerian on a pen pal site, will it be shocking to tell you I knew I'll find you there though? I want to make a big deal on what a coincidence it is that we are both named Oluwadamilola but we are Nigerians and know how common this is.

I read your profile and I get why you had one up on the website, I also loved the idea of having a pen pal at your age although it took me longer as you can now tell. I am an avid book reader! I used to consume as much books as you do right now but adulting has taken me away from them lately, I am female and certainly no pervert, I guess I am emailing you because you reminded me of myself, and the nostalgia of being a worthy mentor or sister caught up with me.

It'll greatly please me to hear from you, I cannot do snail mail because good-luck figuring that out here in Nigeria.

Sent from Oluwadamilola.

To: [hereattwentyfive@gmail.com](mailto:hereattwentyfive@gmail.com)

Cc/Bcc, From: [damiis15@gmail.com](mailto:damiis15@gmail.com)

Subject: Pen pals for sure

Hello Dami,

I wonder if I should use a title before your name but I'll rather not, so I do not over think this situation and run away, it came as a surprise to me to get your email especially since I've had the profile up for some months now, I've had a bunch of weirdos send me funny mails but I will not regale you with those crazy stories.

A book reader also! Yay!! I only needed to get that far to know I'll be replying, your life seems miles away from mine, 25 seems like such a big age away, a decade older than me! my eldest brother isn't even that old. I had reservations about replying you honestly but I am bored and sad.

I just graduated from secondary school and I am anxious about my future, I do not know what I really want to do, Oh by the way I was a science student despite the fact that most of my teachers felt I was better suited for the arts.

Anyways I have loads of questions

What books did you enjoy reading at my age? and at your age now?

What books did you hate then and which ones do you hate now?

Any significant change in book taste?

What does life look like for you now and

Lastly any regrets?

Sent from my iPhone.

To: [damiis15@gmail.com](mailto:damiis15@gmail.com)

Cc/Bcc, From: [hereattwentyfive@gmail.com](mailto:hereattwentyfive@gmail.com)

Subject: Questions and Answers

Heyy ☺

I'm so gassed! It's weird I am this excited about making friends with a teenager. Being twenty-five feels like being a fraud, I still feel like a child yet each day acknowledges my growth, your questions are so good dami, I can call you that right?

When I was fifteen, I think I was crazy about the classics. I wanted to be world-learned so I read English classics like black beauty, Robinson Crusoe, Robin hood and Shakespeare, I do not regret reading those books albeit I read books centering around life and human emotions now, I am super into Khaled Hosseini at the moment.

At your age dami, I could not do self-help book. As much as I wanted to read them, they bored me and I couldn't, do I regret it? Maybe. All I know is that it wouldn't have done me any harm to have tried harder with them.

What does life look like for me? Hmm! I'm taking my life easy, resting on the promises of God. I think that's my biggest goal in life now, to pursue God with as much fervor as I can give.

I do have regrets, I do not believe you can live a quarter of a century and not have regrets and this is something I hope you take seriously, finances! I know that the way our society is set up makes it difficult for someone your age to think that far yet but you definitely should dami.

If there is any significant thing you should take away from our friendship however long it lasts, it is this make money and start now!

Is there something that interests you right now?

Sent from Oluwadamilola.

To: [hereattwentyfive@gmail.com](mailto:hereattwentyfive@gmail.com)

Cc/Bcc, From: [damiis15@gmail.com](mailto:damiis15@gmail.com)

Subject: Sorry?

Hello again,

I apologize I'm replying this late in the week, I saw your e-mail on Monday. I was busy, I went with my mum to Lagos to write my post UTME, it went well and fingers crossed on the results. You're right about how the society is set up around finances, sometimes when I read characters doing summer jobs I wish such opportunities were readily available.

I am crazy for fashion right now and looking to learn how to sew very soon during the period of waiting for schools to resume. I'm sure tech is the future although I have little interest in computers right now even as I can acknowledge that this is what the future is looking like.

I will be considering it more seriously after this conversation for sure, I'm excited about going off alone to the university, I think it will be pivotal in figuring out myself and who I want to be in life, my goal for my future is ease and peace. I can relate with you on the God thing, my mum is a pastor and aside from her influence I am also seeking a personal relationship with God. We as Nigerians do put a lot on our religious beliefs yet I will not want this to change in years to come probably just handled better.

Well since you are years above me in this game name sake, what would you have done differently at my age financially?

Sent from my iPhone.

To: [damiis15@gmail.com](mailto:damiis15@gmail.com)

Cc/Bcc, From: [hereattwentyfive@gmail.com](mailto:hereattwentyfive@gmail.com)

Subject: Hello

There is no need to apologize, trust me I get it☺, I mean here I am replying a week later, hmm! Post-UTME! Feels like a decade ago because it really is, it is sentences like this that remind me you are a teenager, your brilliance is astounding.

I would not pretend to ponder what I would have done differently financially, there are just two words Crypto and Tech, learning software engineering, data analysis, project management or any of those tech related nevertheless the smartest thing you can do right now is invest in the crypto market and learn the market, it is the easiest, surest way and arguably the best way to make bank if you start now, some coin I'll advise to buy will be Bitcoin together with Ethereum.

I hope this information do not overwhelm you as that is not my intention at all, I will just advise you to make adequate research on them, in addition I'll help you with any answer as best as I can.

Years ago, I could not imagine myself wishing I did anything computer based but look at me now, life at its finest always spiked with irony.

When would your result be coming out? I'll keep my finger crossed along with yours along with a word of prayer.

Sent from Oluwadamilola.

To: [hereattwentyfive@gmail.com](mailto:hereattwentyfive@gmail.com)

Cc/Bcc, From: [damiis15@gmail.com](mailto:damiis15@gmail.com)

Subject: Making bank☺☺

Hello Dami,

That does not do justice to the excitement I feel, days after getting your mail I happened to mention the crypto thing to my brothers and apparently they have a faint idea about it also, we all spent the week deep diving on google as you can imagine, I think it is a risky venture and I also do not have the money to get

started. My brothers on the other hand seem more inclined towards it than I do. On another note I will be starting classes on data analysis next week as I registered this week already.

My UTME results should be in next week hopefully, what do you do for work right now? I have to go now, my mum is calling for assistance in the kitchen, can't wait to never be doing this.

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Cc/Bcc, From: [hereattwentyfive@gmail.com](mailto:hereattwentyfive@gmail.com)

Subject: Hello again

Do you hate cooking because I cannot stand it either. I do a little of everything right now, I'm kind of still figuring my life on the go. I write, I make clothes and pursuing a master's degree.

I know dabbling into crypto feels like a big risk but risky things pay off the most if done appropriately, you don't have to start with so much money, you can save up a little and just try it out, I believe it is something that will be well worth it for you, you'll see soon enough with your brothers.

Arm yourself with all the necessary information you can then take it from there. Gotta go.

Sent from Oluwadamilola.

To: [hereattwentyfive@gmail.com](mailto:hereattwentyfive@gmail.com)

Cc/Bcc, From: [damiis15@gmail.com](mailto:damiis15@gmail.com)

Subject: Hello also.

Okay, this sounds like a do-able thing, thank you! I have to go now! just got a notification for my result.

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Cc/Bcc, From: [damiis15@gmail.com](mailto:damiis15@gmail.com)

Subject: HNY

Happy new year, it's been months, I hope you are doing well, a lot has happened in the past months, listened to you and I can see a little of what you saw then. I miss you which might be weird but I do. I guess you've been busy lately.

Write back soon!

Your much younger friend,

Oluwadamilola.