DEAR MARINA,

I want to invite you to move here and live with me both now and later when the baby is born. I don't know how things are for you at home with your husband, I don't know what would be better for you, June and Lee—to live together or apart. It is, of course, your affair, and you have to decide what is better and what you wish to do. But I want to say that you have a choice. When you wish, for days, weeks, months, you could move here. I have already thought about this invitation a lot. It is not a quick thought.
It seems to me that it would be pleasant and useful for us both to live together. We can easily help one another. When you converse it helps me. If you sometimes correct my mistakes in conversation or letters, I would be very happy. It is so helpful for me, that I would consider it proper to buy all which we need from the grocery store: food, soap, etc. Lee would need to give you enough money to pay for clothes and medical expenses.

You can get rest here such as you need during pregnancy. During the day it is rather quiet here, but not so quiet as at your place. You and June would be by

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yourselves in the room which fronts on the street. There you would find privacy. Here, I think, it would not be difficult to learn English. From me and from my children you would learn words. In the course of two weeks you could learn all I know about cooking. I'm bad at housecleaning. Perhaps you could help me with this a bit.

I don't want to hurt Lee. Of course I don't know what he wants. Perhaps he feels like Michael, who at one time wants and doesn't want to live with me. You
know, you could live here work days and return home on weekends. You would only need to carry back and forth clothes, diapers, etc. The other things necessary for June and you are here all the time: beds, sheets, towels, a high chair for June, etc.

Please think about this invitation and tell me (now or later) what you think. If you are interested in coming here earlier than September or October, (about which we have already spoken) I want to write an official letter to you and Lee, and I want him to know all that I have said to you. Where you and June live—that is of course
a matter which touches him deeply. Therefore I want to speak directly with him about it.

Your

Ruth

Do you have the book by Petrov: Self-Teacher in English Language?

My neighbor has promised us a bassinet to use after the birth of the baby.