Letter 1:

Dear xxx,

I take the liberty to contact you because I am editing a volume entitled “Health” for the OUP series “Oxford Philosophical Concepts” (the general editor is Christia Mercer from Columbia University). This volume focuses on the meaning and use of the concept of health in various periods, ranging from Antiquity to the 20th century and including the Chinese and Islamic traditions. In case you’re curious the chapter authors are:

xxx

A special feature of this series is that each book includes a number of interdisciplinary “Reflections” that are intended to shed light on the use of the concept in non-philosophical areas. I was hoping you might be willing to write one for this volume. This would, I hope, be an enjoyable and not particularly onerous task: the Reflections are short pieces (maximum of 1800 words each, but 1000 words would be enough), and they are not meant to cover a range of texts or authors. Rather the idea is to choose a single, striking example and to discuss it briefly in a way that will broaden the intellectual horizons of the book as a whole. I should hasten to add that, although the book as a whole takes a broadly philosophical approach to the concept of health, that is not really the purpose of the Reflections. Rather, these should add a non-philosophical perspective to the volume. Given that this is the goal of the Reflections, I am entirely open to any topic you think might enrich the volume, but what I had in mind in your case was that you might be willing to give us a short piece on xxx.

Most of the book is meant to be ready by Dec 31 of this year but for the Reflections I could be a bit more flexible in terms of time, if that seems too soon for you. Just let me know if you have any questions; it would be a great honor to have you included in the project!

Letter 2:

I take the liberty to contact you because I am editing the volume *xx* for the OUP series "Oxford Philosophical Concepts" (general editor: Christia Mercer). This volume focuses on the meaning and use of the concept of xx in various periods, ranging from Antiquity to the 20th century (see a detailed description in the attachment.) In addition to the five chapters written by historians of philosophy, there will be a number of "Reflections" that are intended to shed light on the use of the concept in non-philosophical areas, especially in literature and science. Since I know your wonderful work on xxx, in particular on the "xxx I would
like to invite you to contribute one of the Reflections.

The Reflections are short pieces (1200-1600 words each), and they are not meant to cover many texts or authors. You would be free to choose a single example and to focus on the aspects that seem most important to you. Moreover, you would not be expected to provide a philosophical analysis of the example. On the contrary, the Reflections should give a non-philosophical access to the concept of faculty, thus showing that it has much more than inner-philosophical relevance.

I would be very honored if you accepted this invitation. The chapters dealing with the philosophical parts will be written by the end of August 2013, but I could be flexible as far as time is concerned. It would be wonderful to have a piece on Greek tragedies written by you.