

English Day 4

How could the colours be suggestive of mood and emotion? How do they make you feel?

Red

Green

White

Blue

Yellow

Black

If you were one of the colours above today, which would you be and why? What colour represents the soldiers?

Ask children to recall the ending of the film- what have the boys found in their Grandad's trunk? What are they reading? Do the children recognise the symbolic link between the letters and the way in which the boys are imagining the scene around them? How could those letters link to the soldiers in the clip? Maybe they included message of love, knowledge, hope, family, communication, forgiveness, descriptions of events, descriptions of experiences.

Today you are going to write a letter. It can either be to or from a soldier. Here is an example –

My dearest love,

Thank you for your last letter, it warmed my heart to know that you are thinking of me and that you are well.

We leave tomorrow for a new location. I cannot share very much information with you other than to say that our aim is simple: to thwart the enemy. As each day passes, I yearn, more and more, to be back home. My thoughts are filled with simple memories like making paper chains at Christmas and camping in the woods during the summer. Oh how I miss the smell of the cut grass and hot chocolate by the fire!

Every day here feels like a month; every week feels like a year. I am surrounded by the bravest people I know and yet I feel incredibly cowardly. My heart pounds until it hurts with every round I fire and my nerves feel wrecked, as though I am a thinly stretched piece of elastic, ready to snap. This war has been so cruel. It takes good men daily and leaves others like an empty shell. I pray each night for a resolution and that I will make it safely through each day. The thought of returning to you soon empowers me not to give up.

I hope this letter finds you well- stay safe and know that I love you.

Yours,

Billy

You are going to write a letter.

Ideas for paragraphs

1. Thank them for the last letter.
2. Explain what you are missing about home. Give a little information about what you are doing.
3. Discuss how you are feeling about the war. What has it done to you emotionally? What are your hopes/do you pray for and fears? What do you notice about your friends/others around you?
4. Sign off with a positive sentence.

Emotions Vocabulary

Tense, uncertain, cautious, careful, dismayed, withdrawn, nervous, apprehensive, appreciative, grateful, hopeful, compassionate, fearful, jumpy, detached, panicky, overjoyed, crushed, lonely, isolated, desperate, devastated, shocked, furious, enraged, positive, fond, empty, despondent, determined, brave, fearless, bold, cowardly.

Sentence starters

Every day feels like...

I constantly think about...

My days are spent...

I long to...

I am surrounded by...

The war has been so...

It feels as though...

War has left me feeling...



