

Writing Assignment
"Letter Home from the Trenches"



Directions:

For this assignment, you are to write a 1 – 2 page letter home to your friends and families as if you were fighting in a World War I trench.

Many soldiers in World War I wrote letters home describing the horrors of war and the difficulties of life in a trench.

Example: Private James Mitchell of 7 Church Lane, East Grinstead, wrote a letter to his father on 17th October, 1914.

We started away just after dawn from our camp and I think it was about an hour later that we encountered the enemy. They were on the opposite side of the valley and as we came over the brow of the hill they opened on us with rifle fire and shrapnel from about 900 yards. We lost three officers and about 100 men killed and wounded in that half hour. I do not want any more days like that one. (this section censored) Anyway we drove the Germans back and held them there for eight days. I cannot tell you all I should like to, as it would never reach you.

In writing your letter, be sure to:

- ☐ Draw on materials and information from lectures and class notes
- ☐ Talk about what your experiences are in the war. What do you see and hear? How do you feel?
- ☐ Be creative!!!