

Normandy Landing Letter Home

You find yourself on a boat, sailing across the English Channel. It is very early morning on June 6, 1944; you've been up all night being briefed and prepared for an invasion of mainland Europe. You know that you will be landing in Normandy, France – onto Juno Beach, to be specific – in an effort to push the Nazi army out of France and back towards Germany. You look above your boat and can see nothing but darkness; what objects you can make out are the thousands of other boats carrying over 130 000 soldiers who are also taking part in this mission. You are a soldier on D-Day. As you near the beaches of Normandy, you start to hear gunfire; the boats race towards the shore, men all around you are throwing up because of the sea – and because of their nerves. You are ready to go. About 50 yards from the beach, the gate to your boat lowers and you rush into the water towards the beach...

Your assignment today is to write a letter to a loved one back home, outlining and describing your experiences as a soldier landing at Normandy, on D-Day – June 6, 1944. In the letter, imagine that you, along with your fellow Canadians, have made it safely to shore and have helped to capture Juno Beach. It is a few days after D-Day, and you are about to go to sleep in your barracks. Tell your loved one back home everything about the experience: how you felt in the days leading up to the invasion; what the trip across the Channel was like; the horrors you experienced while trying to get to shore; things that occurred while you were fighting on Normandy; and anything else that you think might be relevant or important. This assignment is very similar to your trench letter that you wrote while looking at WWI.

Your letter should be about one page in length (spacing is up to you). It can be typed or hand-written, made to look old or brand new – all of this is completely up to you. Be as creative as you like with this assignment, but just remember to keep any historical facts as truth. You can write the battle and invasion as you see it, but please do not misinterpret facts or make up anything too crazy.

DUE DATE: MONDAY APRIL 11, 2011

Rubric – Please be sure to submit this rubric with your assignment for marking

Name: _____

Categories	Level 1 (50 - 59%)	Level 2 (60 - 69%)	Level 3 (70 - 79%)	Level 4 (80 - 100%)
Knowledge and Understanding Understanding of historical events _____/10	- demonstrates limited understanding of historical events	- demonstrates some understanding of historical events	- demonstrates considerable understanding of historical events	- demonstrates thorough understanding of historical cause and effect and consequences of singular actions
Thinking and Inquiry Use of critical/creative thinking processes in creating a historical letter _____/10	- uses critical/creative thinking processes with limited effectiveness	- uses critical/creative thinking processes with some effectiveness	- uses critical/creative thinking processes with considerable effectiveness	- uses critical/creative thinking processes with a high degree of effectiveness
Application Transfer of knowledge, reality and skills to the creation of a historical letter _____/10	- transfers knowledge and skills to new context with limited effectiveness	- transfers knowledge and skills to new context with some effectiveness	- transfers knowledge and skills to new context with considerable effectiveness	- transfers knowledge and skills to new context with a high degree of effectiveness
Communication Use of conventions, vocabulary and terminology in paper _____/10	- uses conventions, vocabulary and terminology with limited effectiveness	- uses conventions, vocabulary and terminology with some effectiveness	- uses conventions, vocabulary and terminology with considerable effectiveness	- uses conventions, vocabulary and terminology with a high degree of effectiveness

_____/40

COMMENTS