

# “Dear Bell ...”

## Letter #1



## Setting

It is **1806**.

It's been 15 years since the **Whiskey Rebellion**... 11 since **Little Turtle's War** ended... eight years since the **XYZ Affair**... three years since the **Louisiana Purchase**... and two years since **Lewis & Clark** left to explore the West.

You are **30**-years-old, and have moved from your hometown, across the Appalachians, and are somewhere in the Ohio River Valley... or even further west.

## Style, Technique & Content

### Writing Techniques

- Your letter must use effective narrative writing techniques, including first person perspective, and past tense setting.

### Details

- Your letter must contain descriptive details which create a sense of reality, and make your letter "come alive". Consult **Unit 1** and **Unit 2** for content ideas.

### Vocabulary

- Letter must contain vocabulary which is specific to the content addressed in the letter. For example, "We crossed the Ohio River", instead of, "We crossed a river." Or, "We traded with a group of Cherokee Indians", instead of, "We traded with some Indians."

# Technical Requirements

## Thinking Map

- Before starting your letter you must submit, and get approved a Letter Outline.

## Final Letter

- typed in GoogleDocs
- 12/14 point font
- 200** words minimum; roughly one page
- convert your final draft into a "scripty" looking font: *Something ... like ... this.*
- Adjust the font size so the letter is easily readable. (Only your working draft has to be 12/14 point font. It's OK if the final draft is larger. The important thing is that it's easy to read.)
- print **TWO** paper copies of your final draft

## Due Date

Everything on the above checklist is due on: \_\_\_\_\_

## Warning !!!

There are 130 students at Bell Middle School waiting for our letters, and I will not make them wait any longer than is reasonable while you drag your feet day after day after day, piecing away at your letter. So, if you do not have your final letter ready on the day it is due, you will be coming in for lunch every day until you get it done.