

Wish You Were Here!

Writing challenge: Teacher notes

Three writing activities are presented so that the most suitable activity for the pupils level of attainment can be used.

The most basic activity is writing a postcard (WYWH10) from the Separatists to their family in England. Space is provided for a picture which can be followed by a written message.

An expanded version of this to write a letter (WYWH11) from the Separatists to their family in England. Space is provided at the end of the letter for a picture. Continuation sheets can be added to this activity.

The final exercise is designed to stretch the higher attainers by asking them to write a peace treaty (WYWH12) between the Separatists and the Wampanoag. This will require considerable thought as well as formal writing skills.

The actual peace treaty (in 17th century English) was as follows:

1. That neither he [Massasoit] nor any of his should injure or do hurt to any of our people.
2. And if any of his did hurt to any of ours, he should send the offender, that we might punish him.
3. That if any of our tools were taken away when our people were at work, he should cause them to be restored, and if ours did any harm to any of his, we would do the like to them.
4. If any did unjustly war against him, we would aid him; if any did war against us, he should aid us.
5. He should send to his neighbor confederates, to certify them of this, that they might not wrong us, but might be likewise comprised in the conditions of peace.
6. That when their men came to us, they should leave their bows and arrows behind them, as we should do our peace when we came.
7. Lastly, that doing thus, King James would esteem of him as his friend and ally.

Comparing the pupils treaties with the actual treaty would be informative for both pupils and teachers.