

# LESSON PLAN: WRITING A LETTER TO A HISTORICAL FIGURE

**Grade:** 9th-10th grade

**Month:** February

**Time:** 60 minutes

**Materials Needed:**

Outline, Letter, and Reference Worksheet    Chromebooks  
Writing utensil

**Learning Objectives:**

9-10. RI.1 Analyze what the text says explicitly as well as the inferentially; cite strong and thorough textual evidence to support the analysis.

9-10. W.7 Conduct short as well as more comprehensive research projects to answer questions (including a self-generated question) or solve a problem; narrow or broaden the inquiry when appropriate; synthesize multiple sources on the subject, demonstrating understanding of the subject under investigation.

9-10.L.3 Apply knowledge of language to understand how language functions in different contexts, and to make effective choices for meaning, style, and audience.

**Procedure: (60 minutes total)**

**Prep (2 minutes)**

Log into EBSCO's Biography Reference Bank [here](#). Handout packet which includes Outline, Letter, and Reference page

**Explain (10 minutes)**

Go over each how to use this database to explore important historical figures for Black History Month. Have students follow along on their Chromebooks,

**Brainstorm and Outline (20 minutes)**

Give students 20 minutes to choose their historical figure and begin filling out the Outline. They will also be finding 3 facts about this historical figure

**Pair and Share/Finish Outline (8 minutes)**

Give students the opportunity to either share with their neighbor their outline and facts, or finish their outlines

**Write a Letter (15-20 minutes)**

Using their outline as a reference, in addition to EBSCO Biography Bank, have students begin writing their historical figure a letter, with the parameters being:

- They must include at least one of their researched facts
- They must have one question for their chosen person

As they finish, walk around and have students begin to fill out the Reference sheet. They can use the "citation" feature in EBSCO Biography Reference Bank to complete this section.

**If there is time remaining, you can ask for volunteers to read their letters aloud OR read it to their neighbor.**



Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

# Outline for a Letter to a Historical Figure:

Chosen Figure:

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Why did you choose to write a letter to them?:  
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Fact #1:

Fact #2:

Fact #3:

What would you like to know about them? (questions about their experiences, their motivations, their personal life, etc.) Write down your ideas:





# References:

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**Primary or Secondary Source?**

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**Primary or Secondary Source?**

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**Primary or Secondary Source?**

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