

## *The Red Badge of Courage* Postcard Project

**Directions:** After reading *The Badge of Courage*, you will assume the voice of Henry or one of his comrades and write a letter to another character mentioned in the novel. Your war letter will accurately reveal the character's personality and relationship with others, while employing Crane's naturalistic and realistic writing styles.

1. Assume the voice of Henry or one of his comrades (use 1<sup>st</sup> person point of view.) Like the novel, you need to focus on portraying the character's inner turmoil through what he reveals and doesn't reveal in his letter, instead of merely describing the war itself.
2. Write a note to your family or a friend accurately describing the character's experiences and war.
  - Incorporate two quotations from the novel into your note. The quotes should describe what the character is experiencing or feeling.
  - You should refer to the text for this portion of the project, but you should not rely on the text for the entire postcard
3. Create an appropriate picture (as seen on a postcard) that depicts a scene from the novel. Make sure that the image you depict relates to the character's emotions and relationship with the person receiving the letter. Think about what your character feels comfortable revealing/expressing to the letter's recipient.
  - You may print images from websites, draw original pictures, copy from books, or cut pictures from magazines
  - Your picture needs to be as neat as possible (I realize we are not all artists), but more importantly needs to accurately depicts a scene from the soldiers' experiences (preferably a text-based picture.)
4. Reveal an accurate setting through a fictitious address and date
5. Design a stamp that is unique and depicts a theme from the novel. Describe the theme in a short phrase under the stamp.

### Postcard Project Grading

1. Descriptive note /30 points
  - Accurately portrays character's personality and fears, as well as how he wants people to view him, his reputation as a soldier
  - Uses 2 direct quotations smoothly and effectively
  - References at least 2 different events or conflicts from the novel that lead to Henry's growth
  - Mirror's Crane realistic and naturalistic writing style (believable, everyday reality, objective tone, pessimistic outlook, etc.)
2. Postcard design /10 points
  - Cover picture reflects character's personality
  - Cover picture represents a key event or moment from the novel that shows Henry's maturation
  - Historically accurate date and address
3. Stamp /10 points
  - Creative, neat symbol
  - Represents an important theme from text
  - Concise, clear theme phrase (not 1 word long)

Total Score = /50 points