

Tibbs Letter Instructions

On June 15, 1944, Private First Class Kenneth Jewel Tibbs became the first African American Marine killed in combat. He was killed by a gunshot wound to the ear on Yellow Beach #2 on Saipan, a key island in the Western Pacific Campaign. More than 3,000 Americans would die in the Battle for Saipan.

Imagine that you are Tibbs' fellow Marine. Write a letter to his family explaining

- The challenges he faced as a Montford Point Marine; and
- Why you believe that he fought despite the challenges he faced.

Use the documents from the Timeline Worksheet as well as the Fallen Hero Profile to provide evidence and specific facts to support your response.

Tibbs Letter Rubric

	Advanced	Proficient	Basic	Emerging
Content	Letter clearly addresses the prompt. Provides at least three pieces of evidence from documents to support ideas.	Letter addresses the prompt. Provides at least two pieces of evidence from documents to support ideas.	Letter somewhat addresses the prompt. Provides at least one piece of evidence from documents to support ideas.	Letter does not address the prompt. Does not provide evidence from documents to support ideas.
Organization	Note begins with an appropriate salutation. Paragraph length note includes a clear introduction sentence, well-organized body sentences, and a conclusion sentence. Note ends with a complimentary close.	Note begins with a salutation. Paragraph length note includes an introduction sentence, body sentences, and a conclusion sentence. Note ends with a complimentary close.	Note begins with a salutation. Paragraph length note is missing one of the following: an introductory sentence, body sentences, and a conclusion sentence. Note ends with a complimentary close.	Note lacks a salutation. Note is not paragraph length. No clear introduction sentence, body sentences, and/or conclusion sentence. Note lacks a complimentary close.
Mechanics	Clear control of grammar, mechanics, spelling, usage, and sentence formation.	Adequate control of grammar, mechanics, spelling, usage, and sentence formation.	Limited control of grammar, mechanics, spelling, usage, and sentence formation.	Minimal control of grammar, mechanics, spelling, usage, and sentence formation.