

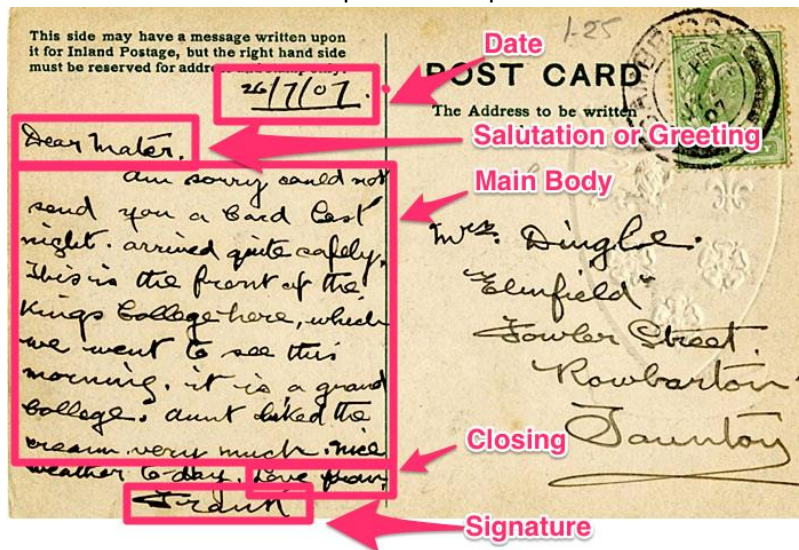
## Short assignment - Postcard from a distant land

### Postcard from a distant land

If you have ever picked up a postcard addressed to someone else, you have likely tried to figure out the story behind it. Postcards invite us to guess what the writers experience through a combination of images of interesting locales on the front accompanied by brief messages on the reverse. You can't help but wonder what Paris is like or what it's like to be someone who is off in the tropics looking at colourful birds.

For this assignment, you will write a postcard that tells a story in just a few sentences as you don't have that much space. You will hint at people, places and events, leaving the reader to piece together the story underneath. Given the current circumstances paint a picture of your day to day activities, your feelings and surroundings. Alternatively you can describe an exotic or fantastic location, feel free to use your imagination.

Look below to see what the parts of the postcard are called.



### Criteria and Marking

This assignment will be marked out of 4 according to this **English 8/9 Short Assignment Rubric**:

This assignments will be marked according to effort. Show that you have completed the required reading and given it some thought. Answer all of the questions, properly format the assignment, and you will receive full marks. Take your time and tell a good story.

4	Student has handed in a complete, properly formatted assignment that fully meets expectations in terms of comprehension and a willingness to engage with the work being studied. Response is easy to read and contains few, if any, errors.
3	Student has handed in a complete, properly formatted assignment, but it only shows a surface reading of the work. It may appear to have been hastily executed for the sake of completion rather than to achieve an understanding of the work or works being studied. This response may contain some basic errors, but none that interfere with meaning.
1 or 2	Student has submitted the assignment, but it shows little understanding of the reading and is clearly insufficient in terms of effort. This assignment may be incomplete and may include errors that interfere with meaning.

**Format**

Your postcard should include:

- the date
- a salutation (You can address it to me (your teacher) or anyone else, made up or real)
- main body of three to four (3-4) sentences
- conclusion/closing sentence
- your name and/or signature

Your postcard should be properly addressed to a person though you can make up the address and name of the recipient. **(Take a look at the example for how to properly address a post card)**

**Content:**

On opposite side draw, take photo or source a picture online. The image can be one of your surroundings (the town, the mountains, the river etc.), alternatively you can provide an image of a location that is exotic, fantastic or from your imagination. The picture might include the name of the location, but doesn't need to.

In your writing you should:

- mention your location
- Refer to the image on the reverse.
- Try to include at least one figure of speech or idiom.

You can create your post card in Microsoft word/Google Docs and submit it electronically (as a document or pdf) or create it by hand (pencil and paper).

Feel free to extend this assignment and include a response from an imaginary person if you would like.

**A completed assignment will contain the following:**

- 1 completed post card, these can be on separate pages or you can submit a double sided post card

August 1, 2014

Dear Tania,

We opted to take the bus to Drake Bay but would have come in by plane if my brother had told me that the road is almost impassible during the rainy season. Thus far, I have done my best to avoid the assassins that lie in wait in the dark, ready to sink their fangs into unsuspecting foreigners. In the morning we will take the supplies that you so generously donated out to the first of the tribal villages that we will visit this trip.

Yours truly,

Reynold



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<b>Unit Planning Framework</b>	
<b>Inquiry / Title Question:</b> Post Cards from a Distant Land	<b>Unit Summary:</b> If you have ever picked up a postcard addressed to someone else, you have likely tried to figure out the story behind it. Postcards invite this speculation by displaying interesting locales on their front accompanied by brief messages on the reverse. You can't help but wonder who is in Paris right now or why someone is off in the tropics looking at colourful birds.  For this assignment, you will write a postcard that tells a story in just a few sentences. You will hint at people, places and events, leaving the reader to piece together the story underneath. First, look below to see what the parts of the postcard are called.
<b>Focus on Curricular Competencies:</b>	
<b>Subject Area:</b>  English – Letter Writing	<b>Big Idea or Curricular Course Competencies</b>  <b>Big Ideas English 8/9:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <i>Language and story can be a source of creativity and joy.</i></li><li>• <i>Exploring <b>stories</b> and other <b>texts</b> helps us understand ourselves and make connections to others and to the world.</i></li></ul> <b>Competencies:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <i>Use writing and design processes to plan, develop, and create engaging and meaningful literary and informational texts for a variety of purposes and audiences.</i></li><li>• <i>Use an increasing repertoire of conventions of Canadian spelling, grammar, and punctuation</i></li><li>• <i>Transform ideas and information to create original texts.</i></li></ul>