

# The Censors Activity

Adapted from Performance Task, p. 94, Collections ELA9

## Objectives

Objective 1: Identify connotation and figurative language.

Objective 2: Using correct grammar and usage, write a personal letter which includes use of connotation and figurative language to indirectly communicate specific feelings or information.

Objective 3: Effectively peer review to identify mistakes in grammar and usage, and suggest corrections to those mistakes.

## Instructions

**STEP 1:** Work in pairs. You are Juan, from the story *The Censors*, living in Argentina. With your partner, write a letter (at least 250 words) to your girlfriend Mariana, who is living in France. In your letter, you need to include at least three comments that indirectly express or at least suggest anti-government ideas. You can do this by using figurative language and connotations. Be sure to proofread your letter! Censors will be reading it, and mistakes will be noticed.

Post your letter to your wiki page. Do not edit any other page. You can either write directly to the wiki, or work on a Doc and copy and paste.

**STEP 2:** You are now Juan the censor. You will inspect the letter of the group number above yours. For example, if you are Group 5, you inspect the letter of Group 6. The highest group number inspects Group 1. Your task is to:

- 1.) Correct any and all mistakes in grammar and usage, including punctuation and spelling.
- 2.) Find at least 3 indirect expressions of anti-government ideas.

Correct and annotate the letter you censor directly on the wiki page. Save your changes. Missed mistakes and anti-government messages will result in a demotion!

We will use the general homework rubric for evaluation. Your Language element will be evaluated on both your original letter and that which you peer reviewed and corrected.

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### Standards:

- CCR.ELA-Literacy.L.9-10.1  
Demonstrate command of the conventions of standard English grammar and usage when writing or speaking.
- CCR.ELA-Literacy.L.9-10.2  
Demonstrate command of the conventions of standard English capitalization, punctuation, and spelling when writing.
- CCR.ELA-Literacy.L.9-10.3  
Apply knowledge of language to understand how language functions in different contexts, to make effective choices for meaning or style, and to comprehend more fully when reading or listening.
- CCR.ELA-Literacy.L.9-10.5  
Demonstrate understanding of figurative language, word relationships, and nuances in word meanings.