

## Starter -

Rewrite these sentences, writing the contracted form of the underlined words, with the correct punctuation.

1. I am having school dinners today.
2. There is not any butter left.
3. We cannot find it anywhere!
4. You should not go in there!
5. I was not able to go to her party.
6. You are too late.

Let's have a look at these letters,  
written by evacuees during WWII.

72 Hillbrook Way  
 Foxdown  
 Liverpool  
 LV7 1PK

Dear Mum,

How are you? I hope you are OK.

We got to the village two days ago. Sorry I didn't write sooner but I couldn't find any paper to write on. When we got here there was an old lady who took us around to all the houses in the village to sort out where we would live. She was nice and remembered that you wanted me to live in a house near a church. There weren't many houses that had much room and all the other kids were chosen before me. I was really scared because I thought no one would want me.

Finally, the old lady took me to a dark house next to a graveyard. Who would want to leave near a real graveyard? I didn't think anyone was home but then I saw a faint gas lamp light in the window. I was so scared when the door creaked open that I couldn't look up. I saw a dirty pair of leather shoes and heard an old, gravelly voice ask what we wanted. It was an old man and he sounded really grumpy, but the lady explained who I was and he said he'd take me.

I was terrified when she left, I didn't know what to do, but the old man took me inside and told me his name was Tom. He is huge with lots of white hair and wrinkles, and he smells a bit like burnt wood and dirt. He kept talking to me but all I could think of was that I must be good so I just answered politely each time. He gave me a piece of hot bacon and sweet tea for my dinner. I couldn't believe my eyes! Bacon? When did I have bacon last time? I can't remember! I was very scared of huge Tom, and I ate a rash of bacon very slowly. He even thought I wasn't hungry. Anyway, I must go now.

I promised you I would behave and I will do my best.

I miss you,  
 Love, Willie

15 Wellington St.  
 Bridgley  
 Nr Exeter  
 04.05.42

Dear Mum,  
 I hope you are safe and well in London.

When I got on the train to Bridgley I was very upset after saying goodbye. There were lots of other children on the train, crying or shouting. I wanted to cover my ears. I felt a little overwhelmed and so I didn't eat my lunch.

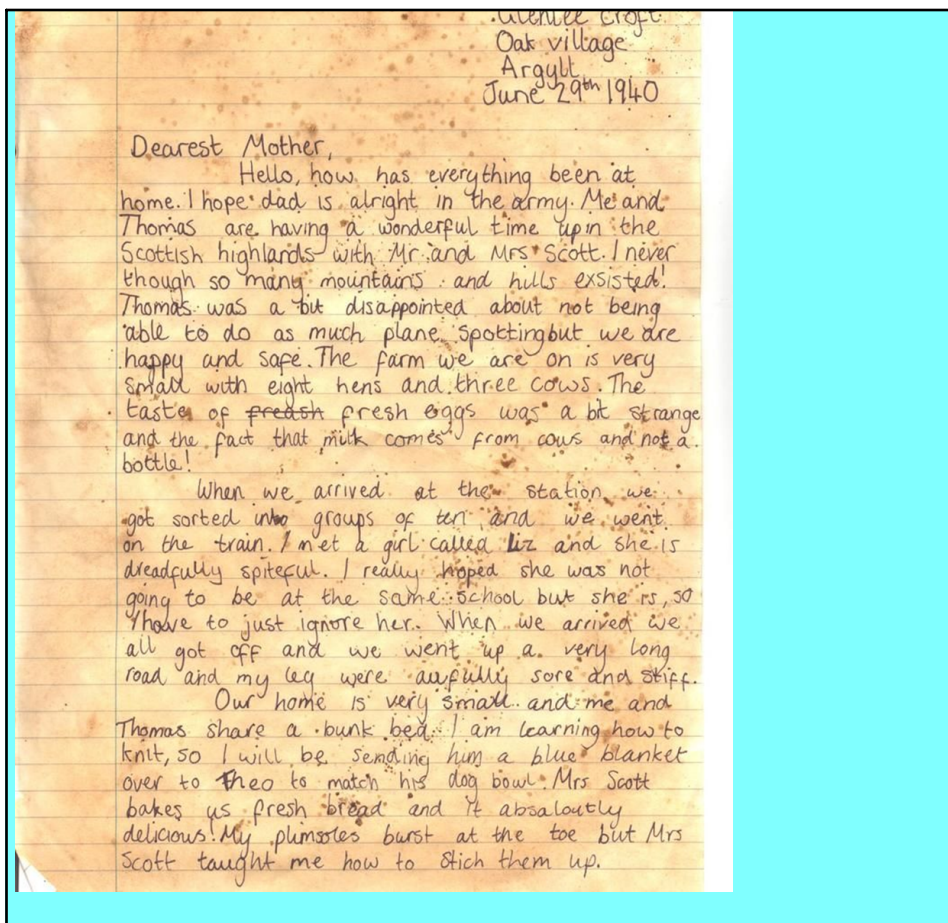
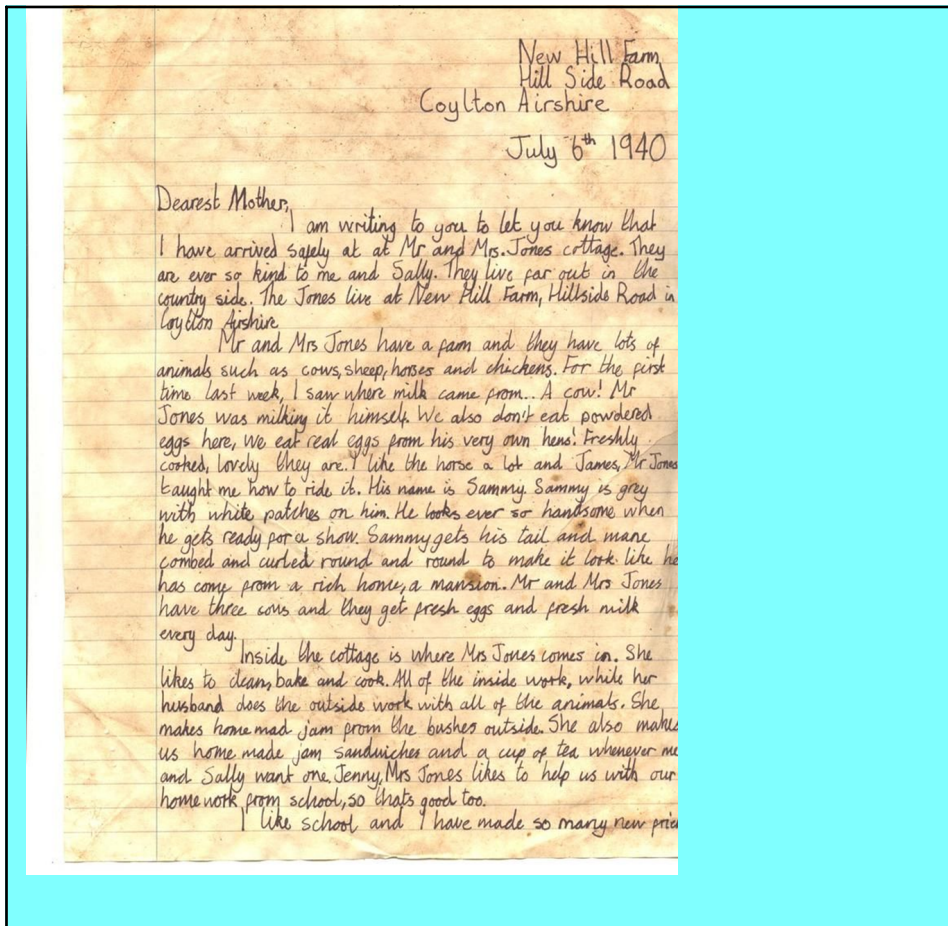
We arrived at the billeting office on Thursday afternoon. I had to sit in my chair quietly and wait for someone to collect me. I felt nervous and homesick. At first waiting made me very anxious. I didn't know if anyone wanted a Londoner like me. I felt more queasy and panicked as the time passed. After what felt like hours, a man with only a little hair and round glasses arrived. He looked very serious and I was terrified he would shout at me, but he smiled, which calmed me down a little. He told to keep my chin up and come along with him.

The man's name is Mr Read and he is the schoolmaster. I am staying with him and his wife in a house on the top of a steep hill, on a winding country road. There are apple trees in an orchard here and the air smells like wet grass and earth. I am enjoying exploring the garden and feel relaxed now that I am here. I am grateful I am staying with nice people.

Tomorrow I am going to school. There are more than a hundred children there. Mr Read says there will be a lot of evacuees like me. I hope I get along well. I would like to do some more maths and spelling but I am not sure what the schools are like here so I will have to see.

I miss you very much and I will write to you again soon.

Lots of love,  
 James



What can we work out from this about what life was like for them during this time?

How would life have been different from what they were used to?

We are going to be writing our own letters home from WWII as an evacuee. Would this be a formal or informal letter?

Can we identify / magpie any words or phrases that show us that

- it is an informal letter
- the letter was written a number of years ago?

WALT write an informal paragraph

Today, we're going to have a go at writing a paragraph imaging that we are an evacuee who is on a farm for the first time.

Remember, we want it to sound informal and 'chatty' and describe how they might feel about seeing a farm and farm animals for a first time.