

Texas Tides Document Analysis Sheet # 1 - Grade 7

Dr. Bone in the Civil War

Teaching excerpt: a letter from Dr. R. D. Bone to his wife Minerva.

West Bank of Trinity River
Madison Co.
Nov 10th 1861

Dear Wife,

I take a few leisure moments to write you a few lines. We caught up with the Company last night at the Camp after two days wearisome riding - Paint stood the trip finely. We are all well except sore feet - The boys are in fine spirits - very jovial and full of fun - We have to travel about 50 miles before we arrive the Rail Road - I cannot tell you anything about what I will do yet - The company want me to stay with them if I can. I shall come home if I can. If not I will do the best I can. I found my carpet sack all right - I shall go on to Navasota where I will write to you again - the roads are fine - never better -

Minerva take good care of yourself - never stay alone have company with you all the time. Kiss Watson for me. Tell him to be a good boy till Pa comes home. Be true to me. Read the Bible - and may the good Lord Bless you and Keep you from all harm till I see you.

Good Bye
R. D. Bone

Answer the following questions, using this letter. Underline important sentences to help answer the questions.

What is the date of the letter? _____

Who wrote it? _____ To whom was it written? _____

According to your textbook, was Texas involved in the Civil War yet? _____

From clues given in the letter, what does the author of the letter appear to be doing?

Why do you think that this letter was written? Use quotes from the document as evidence.

Dr. Bone has mixed personal and political news and concerns in this letter.

List personal concerns _____

List political information _____

What have you learned from this letter about Texas History?
