

A Letter from the Past

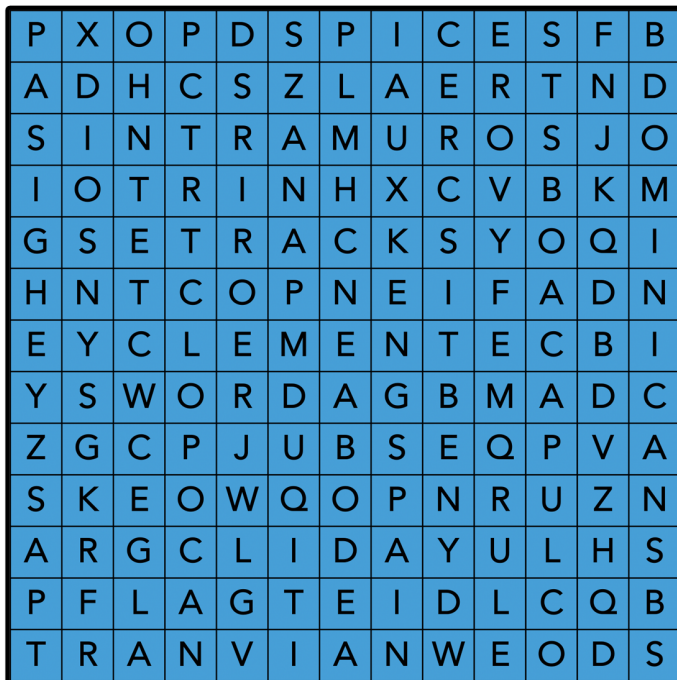
LIFE IN COLONIAL MANILA
GRADES 6-8 (AGES 11-13)

You find a letter from the 19th century, but some words are hard to read because the paper is very old and the letters are faded. Follow the instructions below to complete the missing words.

STEP 1: Read the letter on the right. The blanks are clues to how many letters there are in each incomplete word.

STEP 2: Find and encircle the words in the Word Search puzzle below. They may be arranged horizontally, vertically, or diagonally.

STEP 3: Once you find the missing words, write them down on the letter to complete it!



Dear Mama,

How are my loving parents? I trust my siblings are also well. I am writing this letter to let you know that I am slowly adjusting to life here in Manila. Classes have started for me at the University of Santo T _ _ m _ _ s. The D _ _ _ _ n _ _ _ _ n friars also serve as our teachers.

Sometimes, after my classes I pass by the port of Manila to see the galleons preparing to sail for A _ _ _ _ u _ _ c _ . These huge ships carry goods such as silk, ivory, and s _ _ _ _ e _ . Other times, I go to E _ _ c _ _ _ _ a, Manila's premiere commercial hub. It is located outside the walled city of I _ _ _ r _ _ _ u _ _ _ _ and runs parallel to the P _ _ _ _ g river.

On Sundays, I go to church in the district of Santa A _ _ _ . The people in Manila are very fashionable and after mass, they stroll along the streets in their best clothes.

When people get tired of walking, they can ride the t _ _ _ _ v _ _ _ . These are horse-drawn carriages that run on t _ _ _ _ k _ . Each carriage can carry as many as 12 seated passengers. I was able to ride it once from Intramuros to Malacañan and it was quite exciting! I hear that soon, we will also have trains going all the way to Dagupan. Manila is very progressive. I wish to bring you here someday and show you around. I cannot wait to go home and tell you more about my life here!

Your loving son,
Francisco

Answer Key:
1. Tomas
2. Dominicans
3. Acapulco
4. spices
5. Escolta
6. Intramuros
7. Pasig
8. Ana
9. tranvia
10. tracks