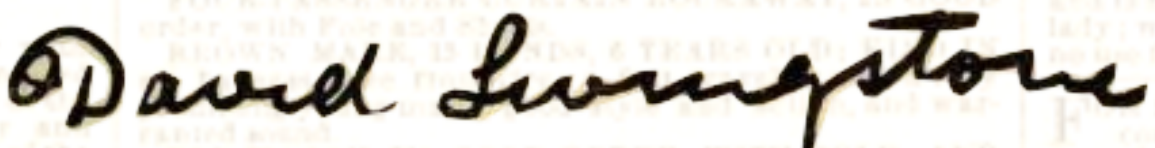


David Livingstone and America

An educational worksheet for children aged 9-13 published by
LivingstoneOnline.org

Written to The Right Honourable Sir W. R. S. V.
Fitzgerald on the 13th of March 1872 at Unyanyembe

May it please your Excellency Before starting on the Expedition into Central Africa in which I am now engaged I received very great kindness and important service from the Bombay Government then under Sir Bartle Frere. I have written to express my thankfulness but my letters to and from the coast have all been destroyed, apparently because I was considered a spy on the slave trade whose correspondence would do no good to the traffic... This letter however goes by Henry M. Stanley, the travelling correspondent of the New York Herald sent at an expense of over £4,000 to obtain accurate information & afford assistance in my isolation. If I give a short sketch of my progress thus far it may gratify the members of your Gov^t. who cheerfully and cordially lent me their aid.... I have been much longer than I intended - 6 years instead of 2.



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Experiences and Outcomes:

Literacy and English

Students can practice deep reading and textual analysis to explore the meanings and emotions within Livingstone's letters, such as his feelings towards the African slave trade.

Social Studies

Students can engage with different forms of media to convey messages, from newspapers to letters to posters and digital forms of communication.

Students can explore the history of the American Civil War, the slave trade and the abolition movement.

Suggested Questions:

Who does David send his letters back with?

Which American newspaper funded an expedition to find David?

What reason does David give for his letters not getting back to Britain?

Further Reading:

Visit *Livingstone Online* (livingstoneonline.org) to read a letter from David to John Kirk about his son, Robert (nicknamed Bob). Robert fought in the Civil war and died in a Confederate prisoner of war camp.

More information about Robert can be found at the American Civil War Round table UK:

http://www.acwrt.org.uk/uk-heritage_The-Search-for-Robert-Livingstone.asp

This educational resource was developed by Kate Simpson and Megan Ward, who are staff of *Livingstone Online* (livingstoneonline.org). *Livingstone Online* is the leading site for learning more about the life and writings of David Livingstone. Visit our site to discover an array of images and texts that supplement the educational material found in this worksheet.