

## Bean Trees Lesson 4 Writing

### Writing Postcards

**Objective:** Students will identify crucial elements of plot and explore the characters and language (voice) of *The Bean Trees* by creating a series on postcards from Taylor to her mother.

On page 15 of *The Bean Trees*, Taylor writes her mother a postcard. Write an additional **three** postcards from Taylor to her mother. You will need to:

- Decide when Taylor would have written these cards
- Determine what information Taylor would want to communicate
- Imitate the voice of Taylor Greer
- Choose a picture/photograph for the postcard. Copy this image and paste it above Taylor’s words.

Your postcards should be at least fifty words. At the bottom of your postcard (post-script), explain why Taylor would have chosen the image/photograph for the card.

### Rubric

Content	A	B	C/D	F
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• three postcards written</li> <li>• contains specific details or an anecdote from the novel</li> <li>• <i>post-script</i>: explanation of image appropriate – connects to plot, theme or conflict</li> </ul>				
Creativity				
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• voice of Taylor adequately portrayed</li> <li>• correct tone of Taylor at given point in novel</li> <li>• formality or informality of language (slang) appropriate to Taylor: word choice, idioms, colloquialisms</li> </ul>				
Effort				
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• thoroughness and thoughtful image choice for each postcard</li> <li>• length (minimum 50 words per postcard)</li> </ul>				
Grammar/Usage				
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Paragraphs are written with a clear beginning, middle and end; details and examples enhance the topic sentence. Paragraphs are free from mechanical and grammatical errors.</li> </ul>				

	Letter Grade/Point Conversion
A	19 – 20
A-	18
B	17
B-	16
C	15
C-	14
D	13
F	12 - 0