Defend McKinley



Would you let someone bad mouth your friend? What about your president? In 1898, Americans were outraged when the Spanish minister spoke poorly of President McKinley. Act as an outraged American citizen and write a response letter to Spain.

Write a Speech defending your President!

Step One: Read the De Lôme letter in class.

Step TWO: Write a letter or speech defending President McKinley. The letter / speech should include:

- Why you are outraged
- Provide at least TWO reasons that prove McKinley is not the things that Spain said – with evidence
- Include what you think the US should do as a result of this letter
- Describe what the future will be like with the US as a world power

Step Three: Have a classmate edit your letter/speech. Make edits before showing Ms. Curry.

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Response to the De Lôme letter Rubric

Use this rubric while you are completing your project AND especially after you complete it to make sure you did not miss anything. You will review this rubric with Ms. Curry when you are presenting your project. **You should have a score circled for each category BEFORE showing your project to Ms. Curry.** A project with any Bronze scores will not pass the oral exam. Meet with Ms. Curry to help you improve any Bronze scores.

Category	GOLD	SILVER	BRONZE
Resources	☐ I have researched about all the relevant information to the de Lôme letter and President McKinley, including: (what disrespectful things were said about President McKinley in the letter, why would Spain write these things about President McKinley, the ways in which President McKinley is not the things Spain said.) This information is highlighted/noted in my resources.		☐ I have researched about all the relevant information to the de Lôme letter and President McKinley, including: (what disrespectful things were said about President McKinley in the letter, why would Spain write these things about President McKinley, the ways in which President McKinley is not the things Spain said.) This information is not highlighted/noted in my resources.
Response Letter / Speech	☐ I have written at least fifteen sentences. ☐ I have included why the De Lôme letter outrages me with specific information from the original letter. ☐ I have provided at least 2 reasons that prove President McKinley is not the things that Spain said – with evidence. ☐ I have included what I think the US should do as a result of the de Lôme letter. ☐ I have described in detail what the future will be like with the US as a world power.	☐ I have written at least twelve sentences paragraphs. ☐ I have included why the De Lôme letter outrages me. ☐ I have provided 2 reasons that prove President McKinley is not the things that Spain said – with evidence. ☐ I have included what I think the US should do as a result of the de Lôme letter. ☐ I have described what the future will be like with the US as a world power.	☐ I have written less than twelve sentences. ☐ I have included why the De Lôme letter outrages me without specific information from the original letter. ☐ I have provided less than 2 reasons proving that President McKinley is not the things that Spain said – or without evidence. ☐ I have not included what I think the US should do as a result of the de Lôme letter. ☐ I have not described what the future will be like with the US as a world power.
Effort	☐ I am proud of my work and want to show it off.	☐ I am proud of my work.	☐ This is not the best work I have completed. I could have done better.