

Lesson 2: Prepping, Packing & Panhandling

CLOSE Reading (Annotation) of pages 206-207; 210-212 *Philippine Duchesne: Frontier Missionary of the Sacred Heart* by Louise Callan {This excerpt from Callan’s biography details preparation for the trip, and includes letters Philippine wrote and received.}

1. **PREVIEW.** Give each student a copy of the above excerpt from Callan's book (see Lesson Two Primary Resources in the Student Documents and Activities column). Before reading—have students LOOK at the format of the document. What do they notice? Louise Callan sets up the biography with comments about Philippine’s life and provides context for letters Philippine wrote and/or received. Note that Callan’s book is the most intricate biography written about St. Rose Philippine Duchesne, including many letters as primary resources. Also have students note the dates on the letters, ranging from her birthday in August, 1817, until the day she departs in February, 1818.
2. **READ WITH PURPOSE!** Look for these THREE big ideas:
 - a. How does Philippine solicit funds for her life-long dream journey with her persuasive writing skills?
 - b. Circle the terms Philippine uses when she names or describes Native American people in her letters. Evaluate how fear of the unknown and preconceived notions can taint even a future saint’s mindset. How will Philippine adjust from a fixed to a growth mindset regarding prejudice? What can we learn about adjusting our own mindset regarding prejudice of any kind?
 - c. Philippine uses letters to write tender farewell sentiments to her closest friends and family. Closely analyze passages that convey her true sadness at leaving but also display conviction and excitement as she embarks on her dream journey.
3. **ANNOTATIONS:** Make 2-3 detailed annotations in the margin per page that reflect the above prompts. Read SLOWLY and make the annotations while you are reading. The point is to read efficiently. The annotations will help you write your responses to this reading.
4. **WRITING RESPONSES:** Choose one or more of the following post-reading tasks.
 - a. Philippine did not feel comfortable “panhandling” but she still begged for money because the mission was so important to her. In a one page response explain:
 - What pushes you outside your comfort zone? How do you challenge yourself to complete tasks that are uncomfortable?
 - Letter writing and face-to-face encounters were Philippine’s best avenue for requesting funds. How do people creatively fundraise now? Consider Philippine’s cause and conclude with a persuasive position paragraph for a Philippine “go fund me” page.
 - b. Compare and contrast Philippine’s prejudice and naïve understanding of Native American people to issues of prejudice in our communities today.
 - What is a growth mindset versus a fixed mindset? How do you think our mindset impacts race relations in communities?
 - Give a specific example of growth mindset challenging your community’s perspective on prejudice.
 - c. Even with the excitement of finally preparing to leave for the New World, Philippine also experienced a deep sense of loss and sadness saying goodbye to friends and family she would NEVER see again. She expressed this sorrow in her letter writing.
 - Think of your closest family member or most intimate friend. Write a letter saying goodbye, knowing that you will never see that person again.
 - Write a poem, prayer or letter to someone facing a great loss (death of a close family member or a family divided by divorce for example).