

SHEET B: Letters from Kuribayashi to his family

Dear Yoshii and children,

This might be my last letter. I hope you are doing well. I'm doing okay here. The place where we sleep is hot and the humidity is intolerable.

As a husband, this was the time for me to have a happy family life but because of the war, and having a responsible position, there was no choice for me but to give up spending time with you. Lastly, about the children, please tell them to follow their mother and have a happy life after I die. I feel really sorry for Tako-chan as I did not have enough time with her. Please take care of yourself. Good-bye for now.

Your husband, father

P.S. I will send you back all the unneeded things I brought here. You can keep these as a memento. I think I have cleaned around the house but I regret that I couldn't fix the kitchen where a draft is coming in. It will be alright if Taro will do what I have taught to him. I haven't sent any letters to other people. If they contacted you, please say I am somewhere in the south.

(25/June/1944)

Dear Tako-chan

How are you doing? I can clearly remember the day when you and your mom saw me off to Iwoto. After that day, I see a dream of you and me taking a walk around the town, which is now hard for me to do. I hope you become a lady who is of help to her mother. Be healthy, study hard, follow your mother's advice so that I don't have to worry about you. Till later.

Your father from the battlefield

(25/June/1944)

Gloss:

spring water (湧き水)

long for (～を心から望む)

intolerable (耐えられない)

follow A (A の言うことを聞く)

see me off (見送る)

unneeded (不要の)

memento (遺品)

draft (隙間風)

somewhere (どこか)

Tako-chan(栗林の娘)

TASK:

- ✚ What was Kuribayashi's message to his family? Summarize the message.

- ✚ Imagine you are Kuribayashi. What would you be thinking when you wrote these letters.

Adjectives: sad / glad / proud / in pain / lonely / nervous / angry / upset / grateful / comfortable / uncomfortable / anxious / furious / calm / delightful / respectful / supportive / excited / interested / tired / afraid / scared / shocked / worried / surprised / moved / amazed / confused / touched / impressed / frustrated / disappointed / annoyed ...