



WHEN THE BORDER VANISHES

Taking a Step Back

“Dr. Holt’s Prescription for the Treatment of Yellow Fever” was written in the year 1843. Obviously, from reading, you can see that there are words and phrases that are used that are confusing and unknown to us in the 21st century, yet these same phrases and words were very understandable in that era.

To help you out in understanding the prescription, let’s research for understanding.

Standard:

- II. Time, Continuity, and Change
- VIII. Science, Technology, and Society
- IX. Global Connections

Grade Level: 7–12

Objectives:

The student will:

- Read a primary document
- Use background knowledge of yellow fever
- Increase vocabulary
- Read and understand period writing
- Take on the persona of a caregiver
- Increase writing skills by using narrative responses and analytical responses

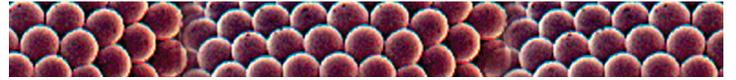
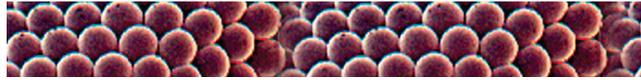
Time: 2-3 class periods

Materials: A copy of “Dr. Holt’s Treatment...” found in the Toolkit
A copy of the *Graphic Organizer: Phrases and Meaning*

Procedures:

Note, the teacher may organize students into teams or groups depending upon time and knowledge of particular groups of students.

- 1.** Each student should have a copy of the primary document and a copy of the *Graphic Organizer: Phrases and Meaning*.
- 2.** Students read the primary document, *Dr. Holt’s Prescription for the Treatment of Yellow Fever*. (Teacher may assign numbered paragraphs for students.)
- 3.** Students should then underline any words or phrases which do not appear on the graphic organizer.
- 4.** Students should then use the internet to assist them with meaning and understanding of the period phraseology.
- 5.** Teacher should lead a discussion once the research on the meanings and phrases have been completed.
- 6.** Students should choose the next assignment:
 - a.** Take on the persona of Dr. Holt and write several journal entries on the progress of one patient through the recovery process.
 - b.** Write a letter to a friend as the spouse of a sick patient afflicted with yellow fever. Share your concerns.



Extension Activities:

1. Students will create a play based on *Dr. Holt's Prescription for the Treatment of Yellow Fever*. The characters will include the doctor, caregiver, and patient. Students may introduce other characters as they would like.
2. Write an article for a magazine highlighting *Dr. Holt's Amazing Prescription Working in New Orleans!* Include how many lives it has saved and how the prescription is administered.
3. Create a logo for *Dr. Holt's Prescription for the Treatment of Yellow Fever*.
4. Using the World Health Organization information, create a pamphlet alerting international travelers to Africa and South America about yellow fever and the necessary precautions they should take. ■