# APH Mantis Q40 Braille Display & Notetaker

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**Trademarks:** *The APH Mantis Q40 Braille Display is developed and produced by HumanWare/APH***.** *The APH Mantis Q40 Braille Display is sold and supported by the American Printing House for the Blind. 1839 Frankfort Ave, Louisville, KY 40206*

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**Current Firmware Version: 2.x**

Version 3.4

# Class Objectives

1. \_\_\_\_ Able to list the functions of the APH Mantis Q40 Braille Display.
2. \_\_\_\_ Able to set the unit to default and erase all data in the unit.
3. \_\_\_\_ Able to connect the APH Mantis Q40 to a Chromebook and use ChromeVox.
4. \_\_\_\_ Able to connect the APH Mantis Q40 to a Windows computer and use JAWS.
5. \_\_\_\_ Able to connect the APH Mantis Q40 to an iPad and use VoiceOver.
6. \_\_\_\_ Able to use the Text Editor in the APH Mantis Q40.
7. \_\_\_\_ Able to move files back and forth from a Windows PC or Chromebook to the APH Mantis Q40.
8. \_\_\_\_ Able to use the Library in the APH Mantis Q40.
9. \_\_\_\_ Able to use the File Manager in the APH Mantis Q40.
10. \_\_\_\_ Able to use the Calculator in the APH Mantis Q40.
11. \_\_\_\_ Able to set the Date and Time in the APH Mantis Q40.
12. \_\_\_\_ Able to configure the Settings as needed in the APH Mantis Q40.
13. \_\_\_\_ Able to use the On-Line services.
14. \_\_\_\_ Able to toggle the Braille grade, select Grade 2.
15. \_\_\_\_ Able to copy/move files with Windows Explorer using keystrokes only.
16. \_\_\_\_ Able to copy/move files with Google Files using keystrokes only.
17. \_\_\_\_ Able to check the battery level.

# APH Mantis Q40 Menu Options

*This training manual is designed to be used in conjunction with the APH Mantis Q40 training manuals from the American Printing House for the Blind. Information on the APH Mantis Q40 can be obtained here:* [*https://www.aph.org/product/mantis-q40/*](https://www.aph.org/product/mantis-q40/)

The APH Mantis Q40 has a QWERTY keyboard and a 40-cell display.

Use the **Enter** key to choose an item from a menu or to confirm. The **Routing Keys** can also be used to confirm.

Use the **Spacebar** to move forward through the Menus.

Use the **Backspace key** to move backward through the Menus.

### Thumb Keys

The action of the Thumb keys depends on the current activity. The Braille display has touch cursors, which will route the cursor. The Thumb keys from left to right are:

**Previous:** Will exit the current Menu and will move the display up a line in the Editor

**Left:** Moves back through Menus and will read backward in the Editor

**Home:** Return to the Main Menu or exit Terminal Mode

**Right:** Advances through Menus and will read forward in the Editor

**Next:** Will select the current Menu item and will move the display down a line in the Editor

APH Mantis Menu Options. When one of the following options is selected the user is usually presented with another Menu. Pressing the Home button when the user is in the Terminal mode will return to the Editor.

**Editor (E)**

**Braille Editor (B)**

**Terminal (T)**

**Library (L)**

**File Manager (F)**

**Calculator (C)**

**Date and Time (D)**

**Settings (S)**

**Online Services (O)**

**User Guide (U)**

**Power Off (P)**

# Setting the APH Mantis Q40 to Factory Default & Other Options

1. Shut down the APH Mantis Braille Display. Start the APH Mantis Braille Display by holding down the Power and Home button for 3 seconds.
2. The APH Mantis Q40 will say “recovery,” start, and then shutdown.
3. Hold the power button again to turn it back on.
4. The standard menu will now display, but in addition Diagnostics will now be in the Menu.
5. The standard Menus will now display, but in addition Diagnostics will now be in the Menu, appearing at the bottom of the Menu Structure.
6. This menu has numerous options; set the unit to factory default, check the status of the unit, wipe the unit, etc.
7. All the data in the unit should always be erased before giving the unit to another student.

## APH Mantis Q40 Firmware Updates

Always have the most recent firmware in the APH Mantis Q40 Braille Display. If it is possible to connect the APH Mantis Q40 to Wi-Fi the unit will always stay current.

The APH Mantis Q40 requires a 2.4 GHz Wi-Fi connection.

If it is not possible to update the unit through Wi-Fi, for example a school district does not support this connection speed or wi-fi connections, APH provides information here on how to update the unit manually: <https://www.aph.org/release-notes/>

## Home Button

When in Terminal mode pressing the Home button will temporarily disconnect the APH Mantis Q40 Braille Display from the Chromebook, Windows PC, or iPad and return the user to the Editor.

The APH Mantis Q40 Braille display will become an external drive for the Chromebook or Windows PC if it is connected when the Editor is the current option. USB to USB-C cable, the USB-C is the small connector. This part always goes into the APH Chameleon 20.

Frequently Used Keystrokes

Context Menu useful everywhere: Ctrl+M.

Toggle Braille Grade: Ctrl+Alt+G

Check Battery Level: Ctrl+Alt+P

Eject Media: Ctrl+Alt+E

QWERTY Keyboard or Braille Keyboard Toggle: F12

Change Navigation Level When Reading Text: Ctrl+T

# Using the APH Mantis Q40 Braille Display with the Chromebook/ChromeVox

1. Navigate to Terminal or press T.
2. Press a Routing Key or enter to select Terminal.
3. Navigate to USB connection and select it with a Routing Key.
4. The APH Mantis Q40 will say “Braille Display.”
5. Use a USB-C to USB-A connector and plug the USB-A into the Chromebook.
6. ChromeVox will start, if you have the latest Chrome OS installed and the latest firmware in the APH Mantis Q40.

## Chromebook Keyboard Settings

1. Go to Settings
2. Go to Device, then Keyboard
3. In Keyboard Settings change Caps Lock to Search.
4. The F1 – F10 keys are not labeled. I use a permanent marker and write above the Function Keys what the Chrome OS equivalents are. I also label the Caps Lock key as the Search key. It would be great if future versions of the APH Mantis Q40 had these keys labelled. Locator dots can also be useful on the Chromebook/Function keys.

## ChromeVox Braille Settings

1. Enter Search+O, then O
2. Navigate to Braille
3. Select English (UEB), Grade 2
4. Braille Captions: ChromeVox+A, B

## Home Button

Pressing the Home Button using a Chromebook, Windows PC or iPad will exit the Terminal mode and return the user to the Editor.

## Navigation Across All Devices, But Very Useful for Google Docs

1. Ctrl+Function+Left Arrow: Top of Document
2. Ctrl+Function+Right Arrow Bottom of Document
3. Function Key+Arrow Keys (Selects Home, End, Pageup, PageDown)

# Using the APH Mantis Q40 Braille Display with Windows/JAWS

1. Navigate to Terminal or press T.
2. Press a Routing Key or enter to select Terminal
3. Navigate to USB connection and select it with a Routing Key.
4. The APH Mantis Q40 will say “Braille Display.”
5. Use a USB-C to USB-A connector and plug the USB-A into a Windows PC with JAWS installed.
6. Have the focus be on the JAWS application.
7. Enter Alt+O and select Basics.
8. Tab to “Use Keyboard Layout” and select Laptop with Alt+Down Arrow. Press Enter
9. Enter Alt+O and go the Braille.
10. Tab to “Add Braille Display”
11. Select the APH Mantis Q40 Braille display.
12. Tab to Next
13. The APH Mantis Q40 Braille display needs to appear in the list as the Primary Device.
14. Tab to Finish and Restart JAWS.

## JAWS Braille Settings

1. Enter Alt+O and go to Braille, then Advanced
2. You can also get here with Insert+F2, then go to Settings Center.
3. Go to Braille, then General.
4. For Output and Input select “Unified English Braille Grade 2.”
5. To learn how the APH Mantis Q40 Braille display works with JAWS, have the focus be on the JAWS application and go to Help.
6. Then go to JAWS Help Topics
7. Select JAWS and Refreshable Braille
8. Navigate to the content by pressing F6.
9. JAWS has no specific configuration for this device, only general settings.

# Using the APH Mantis Q40 with an iPad/VoiceOver

## iOS 15.x or later is required when connecting the APH Mantis Q40 to an iPad. Current iOS version is 16.x. which would be best. The latest APH Mantis Q40 firmware is also required, currently 2.x. These instructions work best with VoiceOver running.

1. iOS 15.x or later is required. The unit does not stay connected with earlier versions.
2. Do the following only if you are having difficulty connecting your device.
3. Delete all Bluetooth devices connected on the iPad.
4. Go to Settings, then Bluetooth on the APH Mantis Q40 Braille Display. Note that this device is first paired in Bluetooth, not VoiceOver.
5. Delete all paired devices.
6. Shut down the APH Mantis Q40 Braille Display and the iPad. Restart.
7. Go to Terminal on the Mantis.
8. Go to Bluetooth settings in Terminal. Select Add Bluetooth Device.
9. The device will say “Activate Your Device in Your Host Computer.”
10. Check in the iPad in Settings, then Bluetooth that the device has connected.
11. Go to Terminal, then Connected Devices on your Mantis. Select the name of the iPad that you connected to.
12. Open this connection and navigate until it says Brl Display on the Braille Display. With VoiceOver running use Gestures to send initial data from the iPad to the APH Mantis Q40.

Known Problem: Accessibility, then Keyboards, Full Access Keyboard must be Off

## VoiceOver Braille Settings

1. Go to Accessibility, then VoiceOver
2. Go to Braille
3. Set Output and Input to Contracted Braille
4. Check APH Mantis Q40 is selected as a Braille Display, if not select it.

## Word Processing Apps

I would suggest using Pages, iA Writer or Voice Dream Writer with the APH Mantis Q40 Braille display.

The VO (VoiceOver) keys are the Ctrl+Window keys.

# Editor

This device has an SD card, information can also be saved/transferred using a thumb drive. This device will not print, connect it to either a Windows computer or a Chromebook, using either Windows Explorer or Google Files to transfer the files and print or emboss. The APH Mantis Q40 can function as an external drive.

## Editor: Activity 1

1. Hit the Home button. The first option is Editor.
2. Press either an Enter key or a Routing key to select it.
3. Editor has the following options, move through them with the Next or Back thumb keys or with the Spacebar or Backspace key:

Create File

Open File

Recently Opened

Editor Settings

Close

1. There are two Editor settings:  
   Confirm Delete: On or Off & Show Text Editor Indicators
2. Select Create and begin writing. The file when it is saved.
3. Navigation: Press a routing key to move the cursor to a specific location  
   Use the Previous/Next keys to quickly scroll  
   Use the left/right thumb keys to read the entire text  
   Use the up/down arrow keys to navigate by lines  
   Use the left/right arrow keys to navigate by characters  
   Use the Ctrl+left/right arrow keys to navigate by words  
   Ctrl+Function+Left Arrow: Top of document  
   Ctrl+Function+Right Arrow: Bottom of document  
   Function Key+Arrow Keys (Selects Home, End, PageUp, PageDown)
4. Word Processing Commands  
   Save: Ctrl+S  
   Save As: Ctrl+Shift+S  
   Cut: Ctrl+X  
   Copy: Ctrl+C  
   Paste: Ctrl+V  
   Leave Edit Mode: Escape  
   Create File: Ctrl+Alt+N  
   Open File: Ctrl+O
5. Activity 1: Select Create and start writing. Use the Backspace key to erase mistakes.

Dear Pat,

*I am glad to hear that you are finally coming to Washington. The first two days we are camping in the Columbia River Gorge. Then we can go skiing. Did you know that there is skiing on Mt. Hood in the summer? Is it true that you are now snowboarding rather than skiing? That is not like you. Thursday we will visit Cannon Beach. The last day we can spend shopping in Vancouver.*

Sincerely, Your Name

1. Add the following sentence to the letter. Insert this sentence just before “Thursday.”

**Wednesday we are going to Mt. St. Helens. We can hike close to the volcano.**

1. Make the following changes to the letter. Change **Vancouver to Portland** and change **Cannon Beach to Seaside**.
2. Save this file with a Ctrl+S <enter> and name the file, then press Escape to close the file. In some cases, Escape will need to be pressed several times to get back to Editor, depending upon where the student is in the device. Files can only be saved as text files, but the device is able to read docx and brf files.
3. Connect this file to a Windows/Chromebook, have the Editor menu active.
4. Open the Files app on the Windows/Chromebook. Navigate to the APH Mantis Q40 and copy the Pat file to the Google Drive in the Files app. Close the File app and open Google Drive.
5. Enter a ChromeVox+M when you are in Google Drive and the focus is on the Pat file. Select Open in Google Docs.
6. Another option is to select “Manage in Drive” and open this file. Tab to “Open With” when the file is open, and press “Enter” and down arrow to open this file with Google Docs. Or open this file with Microsoft Word.

## Additional Writing Activities

There are several sample writing activities at the end of this document. These documents can either be written in Google Docs or Microsoft Word and then transferred to the APH Mantis Q40 by either connecting it to a Windows PC or Chromebook or with a USB drive. If they are written in Google Docs, the files will need to be converted to Microsoft Word before they are transferred. Or these files can be written in the APH Mantis Q40 Editor.

# Google Docs/Windows Explorer

## Windows Explorer

* + - 1. Have the Editor selected on the APH Mantis Q40 Braille Display. The device can timeout during this activity, I would suggest increasing the sleep time in User Settings.
      2. Use Windows+E to open Windows Explorer. The files should be viewed either in Details or List View. If this is not the case enter Alt-V and change it.
      3. Tab from Tree View to List View.
      4. Stay in the List View. Use only the spacebar, enter key, backspace key and the up and down arrow keys.
      5. Select this PC and open it with right arrow
      6. Navigate to the APH Mantis Q40 and select it.”
      7. Navigate to the file that you wish to select. Enter Control+C.
      8. Use the Backspace key to navigate back to the location that the file will be pasted into: My Documents on the C drive for example.
      9. Enter Control+V to paste this file to the desired location.

## Google Files App

1. Have the Editor option active on the APH Mantis Q40, ChromeVox will start but the unit will still act as an external drive. The keyboard on the APH Mantis Q40 will not work.
2. Have the Google Files app pinned in the Launcher.
3. Navigate to the Google Files app with Alt+Shift+L.
4. Enter ChromeVox+Ctrl+Left Arrow to move to top of document.
5. Navigate to the APH Mantis Q40.
6. ChromeVox+Ctrl+Right Arrow or ChromeVox+C work well in the Google Files app for navigation. Move files from the APH Mantis Q40 to Google Drive.
7. Select “Manage in Drive” to open a file you have transferred from the APH Mantis Q40. Tab to “Open With” and press “Enter” and down arrow to open this file with Google Docs.

### Writing Activity 2 for Microsoft Word, Google Docs, or iPad

**American Revolutionary War**

The American Revolutionary War took place from 1775 - 1783. George Washington was in command of all the American forces. The first major engagement of the American Revolutionary War was at Bunker Hill. On July 4, 1776, the Continental Congress voted to adapt the Declaration of Independence. The war effectively ended with the American and French victory at Yorktown in 1781.

### Activity 3: Writing Activity

Write the following information in either the APH Mantis Q40, Google Docs or Microsoft Word. Practice transferring this information back and forth between these devices. Save this file as **British Columbia.** Note that the APH Mantis Q40 saves files as text files, but it can read docx and brf files.

British Columbia

## The state of Washington lies to the south of British Columbia. The capital of British Columbia is Victoria. The largest city in British Columbia is Vancouver. British Columbia became a province in 1871.

### Activity 4: Writing Activity

Write this information in either the APH Mantis Q40, Google Docs or Microsoft Word. Practice transferring this information back and forth between these devices. Save this file as **Washington.**

*Washington*

*The Canadian province of British Columbia lies to the north of Washington. The state capital of Washington is Olympia. The largest city in Washington is Seattle. Washington became a state in 1889.*

### Activity 5: Internet Article

Copy information from the Internet into a Google Doc file or a Microsoft Word file. If it is a Google Doc file, then save this file as a Microsoft Word file before transferring. Transfer this information to the APH Mantis Q40 Braille Display.

# Library

The Library application supports file formats brf, pef, text, html, docx, and rtf.

The DAISY format is supported.

Refer to the APH manual for extensive documentation on using the Library.

The folders that are installed with the factory default setting are Reading, Online-Books, and Books.

Pressing Escape once will move back one menu.

Ctrl+F: Search Library

1. Book List
2. Recently Closed
3. Search
4. Close App

## Navigating Past Copyright Information

1. Change the Navigation Level to Sections: Ctrl+T
2. Select Level 2, on books with minimal navigation possibly select Level 1.
3. Press the Next Thumb key two or three times and you will be in the first chapter.

# File Manager

## Creating Folders

1. Ctrl+N will create a new folder.
2. 1-2-3-4-5-6 (full cell) will be on the first Braille cell of all folder names.

To Delete, Copy, Cut, or Paste a file it first needs to be Marked. Do this with a Ctrl+Enter. Dots 7-8 will show across the entire Braille display when the file is Marked. Do a Ctrl+Enter again to Unmark the file. To Mark all the folders in the current directory, do a Ctrl+A, this might be useful for cleaning a device.

## Deleting and Renaming Files

1. Press the Delete key to delete the file or folder you are currently on.
2. Press F2 to Rename a file.

## Moving Files

1. Ctrl+C: Copy
2. Ctrl+X: Cut
3. Ctrl+V: Paste

## Other Commands

1. Escape: Go to parent folder
2. Select Drive: Ctrl+D
3. Where am I: Ctrl+W

## Activity 6

Create two folders: English and Science. Move several of the files that you have created into these folders and transfer them to either a Windows PC or a Chromebook.

Tip when transferring files to a Chromebook, the top of document and bottom of document ChromeVox commands are very useful: ChromeVox+Ctrl+Left Arrow and ChromeVox+Ctrl+Right Arrow. The ChromeVox+C command is useful for jumping quickly to the file locations.

The APH Mantis Q40 Braille Display should say Editor when plugging the unit into a Chromebook. ChromeVox will start and will say that the Braille display is connected, but it is not and the APH Mantis Q40 keyboard is not working. The APH Mantis Q40 Braille Display is functioning as an external drive and will show in the Google Files app.

# Calculator/Date & Time

## Actions

1. Plus: +
2. Minus: -
3. Multiply: \*
4. Divide: /
5. Equals: = or Enter
6. Clear: Delete
7. Decimal Point: .
8. Percent: %
9. Square Root: Ctrl+Shift+S
10. Pi: Ctrl+Y

## Activity 7

## Navigate to the calculator, practice several of the functions.

## Date and Time

Enter Ctrl+M and navigate through the options. Extensive documentation is in the APH manual on this.

# Settings/Online Services

## Settings

1. User Services
2. Language Profiles
3. Wi-Fi
4. Bluetooth
5. Change Language
6. Activate Exam Mode
7. Software Update
8. About

Should it be necessary to reset an iPad connection, navigate to Bluetooth settings and delete all paired settings.

I would suggest increasing length of time before timeout if you are using the APH Mantis Q40 as an external drive.

## Online Services

1. Bookshare
2. NFB Newsline

## Power Off

Power off is the last option in the unit. A fast option is to press P when the user is in any menu. Then press Enter, then the Next thumb key. Press a router key when OK is displayed.

# Embossing

Files can easily be easily transferred to a Windows computer from the APH Mantis Q40. The file can then be opened in Microsoft Word and embossed in Duxbury or Braille Blaster. I would suggest opening the text file in Microsoft Word and then converting it to the Microsoft Word docx format.

Index Basic D V5 embossers or later have the capability of embossing directly.

# Appendix A: Frequently Used Shortcut Keys

## General Shortcut Keys

1. Switch Braille Grade: Ctrl+Alt+G
2. Back: Escape Key
3. Context Menu: Ctrl+M
4. Battery Level: Ctrl+Alt+P
5. Toggle Braille/QWERTY Keyboard: F12
6. Go to Top: Ctrl+FN+Left Arrow
7. Go to Bottom: Ctrl+FN+Right Arrow
8. Home: FN+Left Arrow
9. End: FN+Right Arrow
10. Find: F3
11. Find Previous: F3
12. Copy: Ctrl+C
13. Cut: Ctrl+X
14. Paste: Ctrl+V
15. Info: Ctrl+I
16. Where Am I: Ctrl+W

## Editor Commands

1. Save a file: Ctrl+S
2. Save As: Ctrl+Shift+S
3. Open File: Ctrl+O
4. Close Open File: Escape
5. Start/Stop Selection: F8 (Then move cursor)
6. Select All: Ctrl+A
7. Delete Previous Character: Backspace
8. Delete Previous Word: Ctrl+Backspace
9. Delete Current Word: Ctrl+Delete
10. Home Button: Move to Next Edit Box While Editing
11. Any Other Navigation Key Than Home: Move to the Next Edit Box Without Editing

## Library

1. Toggle Navigation Level: Ctrl+T
2. Bookmark Menu: Alt+M
3. Jump to Bookmark: Ctrl+J
4. Page Up: FN+Up Arrowz
5. Page Down: FN+Down Arrow

## File Manager

1. Create New Folder: Ctrl+N
2. Mark/Unmark: Ctrl+Enter
3. Rename: F2
4. Select Drive: Ctrl+D
5. Go to Parent Folder: Escape

# Appendix B: APH Mantis Q40 Checklist

Student's Name\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Class Date\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

## Editor

Able to create a file: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Able to open a file: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Able to save a file: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Move to the beginning of the file: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Move to the end of the file: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Able to use panning keys: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Able to delete previous word: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Able to delete current word: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Able to use search commands: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

## Files Manager

Create a file: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Open a file: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Delete a file: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Move through file list: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Create a folder: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Move to specific folders: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Delete a folder: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Copy files between folders: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Able to use search commands: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

## Connectivity

Able to connect the APH Mantis Q40 to a Chromebook & use with ChromeVox: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Able to connect the APH Mantis Q40 to a Windows PC & use with JAWS: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Able to connect the APH Mantis Q40 to an iPad & use with VoiceOver: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Able to configure the Braille display in the host screen reader: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Able to use Windows Explorer & transfer files to/from the APH Mantis Q40: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Able to use Google Files & transfer files to/from the APH Mantis Q40: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

## General

Able to use the Calculator: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Able to set the Date and Time: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Able to configure the Settings as needed: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Able to use the Library: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Able to use the Online Services and download books: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Able to power the unit off and be aware of battery management: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_Sample Letter 1

123 Main Avenue

Vancouver, WA 98661

Date

Dear Pat:

This letter is a response to your question on providing computer access to a learning disabled student with a physical handicap.

The Chromebook has switch access and supports three switches. I would suggest obtaining a switch interface that supports at least four switches.

The current switch assignment in the Chromebook is Select, Next, and Previous. Auto scan is an option.

Sincerely,

Your Name

Sample Letter 2

123 Main Avenue

Vancouver, WA 98661

Date

Pat Smith

122 Main Street

Yorktown, VA

Dear Pat,

I was so delighted to hear that you have moved to Yorktown. From your last letter you informed me that you are studying the role that Alexander Hamilton played in the battle of Yorktown.

Alexander Hamilton commanded a unit that successfully attacked British fortifications at Yorktown near the end of the siege. Alexander Hamilton led an integrated unit, the 1st Rhode Island Regiment, widely considered the first Black military regiment.

Alexander Hamilton wanted surprise when he attacked the British. He ordered his men to unload their weapons and attack with the bayonet.

Looking forward to talking to you soon.

Sincerely,

Your Name

Sample Letter 3

123 Main Avenue

Vancouver, WA 98661

Date

Pat Smith

122 Main Street

Yorktown, VA

Dear Pat,

Your last letter said that you are interested in the weapons used in the American Revolutionary War.

One little-known fact is that the French provided the American army gunpowder that helped win the war. The French gunpowder was better than the British and provided the musket slightly longer range.

The most common weapon used was the smoothbore musket, which was not usually accurate beyond 50 yards. It is claimed that a soldier could fire 3 rounds per minute, but in actual combat 1 round per minute would be more likely. The primary use of the smoothbore musket was to be a holder for the bayonet.

A very few American soldiers had rifles, sometimes known as the American Long Rifle. This rifle had a range of over 200 yards but was even slower to reload then the musket. This weapon was greatly feared by the British, especially the officers. It was not possible to attach a bayonet to this rifle, so rifleman usually carried a tomahawk.

Edged weapons played an important part in the American Revolutionary War. The most common edged weapon was the bayonet. Swords, knives, and axes were also used.

It was good to hear from you again. Please keep in touch.

Sincerely,

Your Name

# 

Name\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Session\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Activity 1: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Activity 2: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Activity 3: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Activity 4: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Activity 5: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Activity 6: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Activity 7: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_