

**Workshop 2: Tsunami: Disaster of the Century****Reading 2 Project: Terror and Tragedy**  
**A Letter of Sympathy**

*Can you help Latha get through this tragedy?*

**Project:** Write a letter of sympathy to Latha.

**Procedure****1. Decide what to say.**

Think about what you might want to hear if you were in Latha's position. Which of the following would you want people to do:

- Tell you that everything will be okay?
- Tell you how they handled losses in their lives?
- Tell you they cared about you and admired you?

Add other possibilities to the list.

**2. Write a draft.**

First, let Latha know how you learned about her. Then write a paragraph expressing your sympathy.

**3. Revise and proofread.**

A sympathy letter goes to people who are suffering a loss. That's why it's especially important to be respectful of their feelings. Misspelled words or messy writing show that the sender doesn't really care. Trade drafts with a partner for extra proofreading.

**4. Present.**

Write your final draft on the computer or neatly by hand. Keep the letters in a box where everyone can look at them. Compare the different ways of expressing sympathy.