Beyond the Battle

Alabama units and the legacies of their service

SS24.AS.12a "Summarize the legacy of Alabama-based military units, their performance, and their contributions to battle, including the 167th Infantry Regiment and the Tuskegee Airmen."

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline what each unit did in battle, circle words about its performance, and number the effects of its service. Use your marks to trace how actions became legacies.

Service Under Fire

1 A military unit's legacy is more than a list of battles. It includes what its members did under pressure and how their service mattered afterward. In World War I, Alabama's 167th Infantry Regiment served in the 42nd Infantry Division, called the Rainbow Division because it drew units from many states. The regiment fought in France as American forces joined the war against Germany. Its record shows how soldiers from one state contributed to a much larger Allied effort.

2 On July 26, 1918, the 167th attacked a German position at Croix Rouge Farm in France. Machine-gun fire made the advance dangerous, but the soldiers pressed forward and helped take the position. The fighting cost the regiment many lives. Its action helped the Allied offensive move forward. Croix Rouge Farm became a symbol of the unit's courage, while its losses showed the terrible price of that success. Both the achievement and the sacrifice remain part of the regiment's legacy.

3 In World War II, Black pilots trained at airfields near Tuskegee, Alabama, while the U.S. military was segregated. They and the people who supported their flights became known as the Tuskegee Airmen. Pilots of the 332nd Fighter Group escorted bombers over Europe and fought enemy aircraft. Their skill helped protect bombing missions and challenged racist claims that Black Americans could not succeed as military aviators. Their service became part of the case for ending segregation in the armed forces, which was ordered in 1948.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. How did the 167th perform at Croix Rouge Farm, and what did its action contribute to the battle?

2. Why are both courage and loss part of the 167th's legacy?

3. How did the Tuskegee Airmen's performance contribute to bombing missions?

4. How did the Tuskegee Airmen's service matter beyond the battles they fought?

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Write a four- or five-sentence museum label comparing the two units' legacies. Explain how each unit's circumstances make its legacy more than a record of battlefield success.

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PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Underline what each unit did in battle, circle words about its performance, and number the effects of its service. Use your marks to trace how actions became legacies. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	How did the 167th perform at Croix Rouge Farm, and what did its action contribute to the battle?	**The soldiers advanced despite machine-gun fire and helped take the German position, allowing the Allied offensive to move forward.**
2	Why are both courage and loss part of the 167th's legacy?	**The regiment helped take a dangerous position, but many of its soldiers died in the fighting.**
3	How did the Tuskegee Airmen's performance contribute to bombing missions?	**Pilots of the 332nd Fighter Group escorted bombers and fought enemy aircraft, helping protect the missions.**
4	How did the Tuskegee Airmen's service matter beyond the battles they fought?	**Their skill challenged racist claims about Black aviators and strengthened the case for ending military segregation.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

The 167th Infantry Regiment and the Tuskegee Airmen both helped larger military efforts succeed. At Croix Rouge Farm, the 167th helped take a German position despite heavy fire. Its legacy includes the lives lost in that advance, not only the ground gained. The Tuskegee Airmen helped protect bombers while serving in a segregated military. Their legacy includes both their wartime skill and their challenge to racist beliefs about Black aviators.

Accept accurate comparisons that connect each unit's actions to a lasting effect. Students may describe the 167th's sacrifice or the Tuskegee Airmen's service under segregation as the circumstance that adds depth to its legacy.