

Creative Writing – Early Settlers in New Zealand

Aim: To explore the reasons why British immigrants moved to New Zealand and what their lives were like in the early South island settlements

Write an authentic sounding story or letter or diary set in New Zealand between 1850 and 1890. You will write from the point of view of a family or settler.

You should include:

- Journey from Britain to New Zealand
- Arrival in New Zealand
- What life was like in the settlement?
- Gold Rush

What authentic information could I include?

Aspect	Authentic information
Family or person	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Upper class or working class · Name · Gender roles
Journey to NZ	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Why migrating to NZ? –push and pull factors · Steerage or cabin? · Length of journey · Activities on boat, food, living conditions · Weather
Arrival to NZ	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Situation of settlement – Lyttelton, Canterbury, Otago · Weather conditions and landscape · Buildings, access, transport · The settlers already there
Daily life	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Activities · Hardship, hard work of daily activities · Streets, roads, new buildings · Farming
Gold rush	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · When found? Where? Found by who? · Fast growth of towns · Hotels, bars and brothels · More men than women · Miners lives – dangers, hardship · Chinese miners – racism

