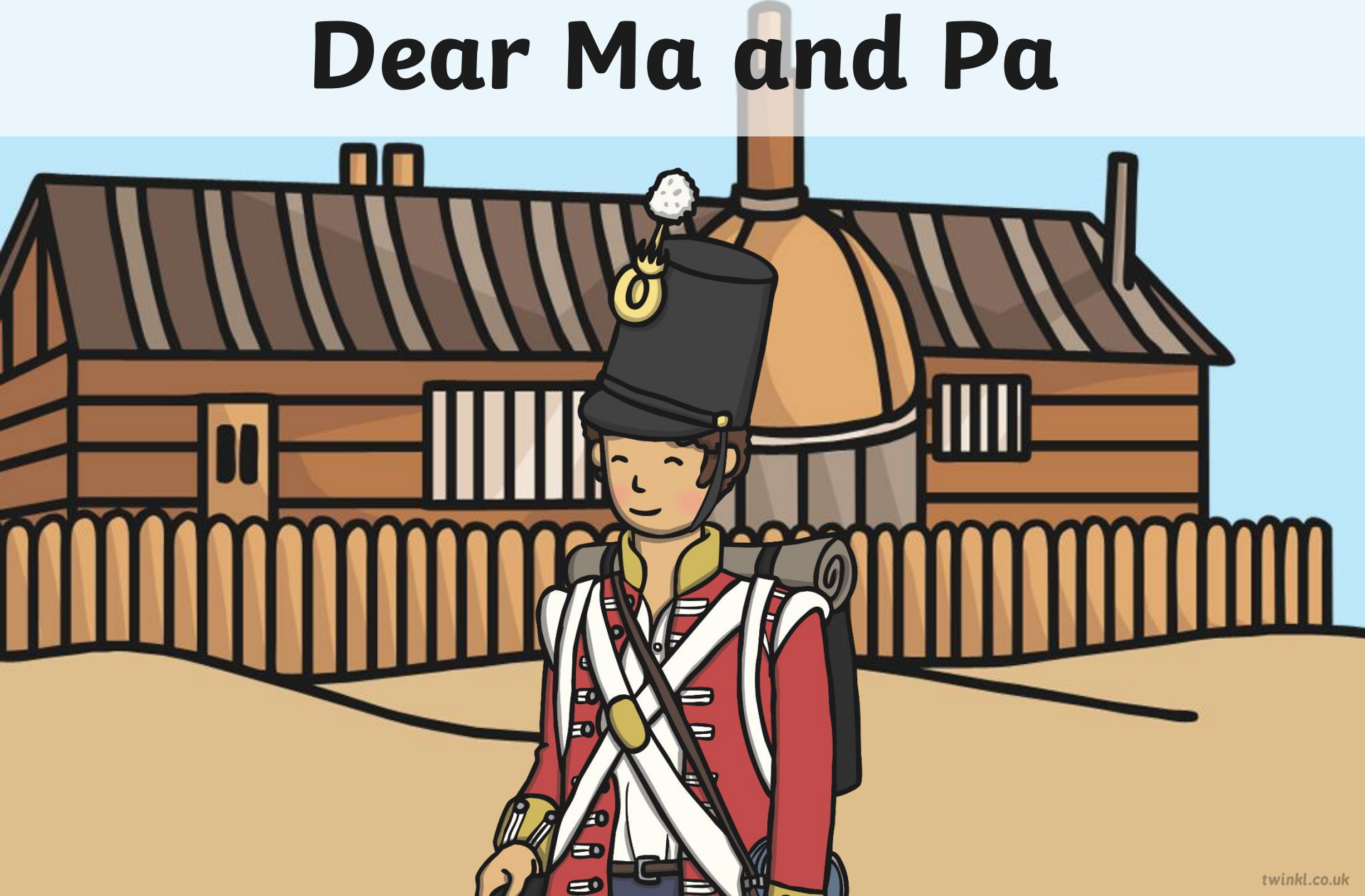


Dear Ma and Pa



Aim

- I can write a letter to describe what it was like being a soldier in the Crimean War.

Success Criteria

- I can use what I have learnt about Florence Nightingale and the Crimean War to describe the experience as if I was a soldier.
- I can use a checklist to write an informal letter and check my work.
- I can improve my work.

Hospital of Horror...

Here is a description of the hospital before Florence Nightingale and her team arrived.

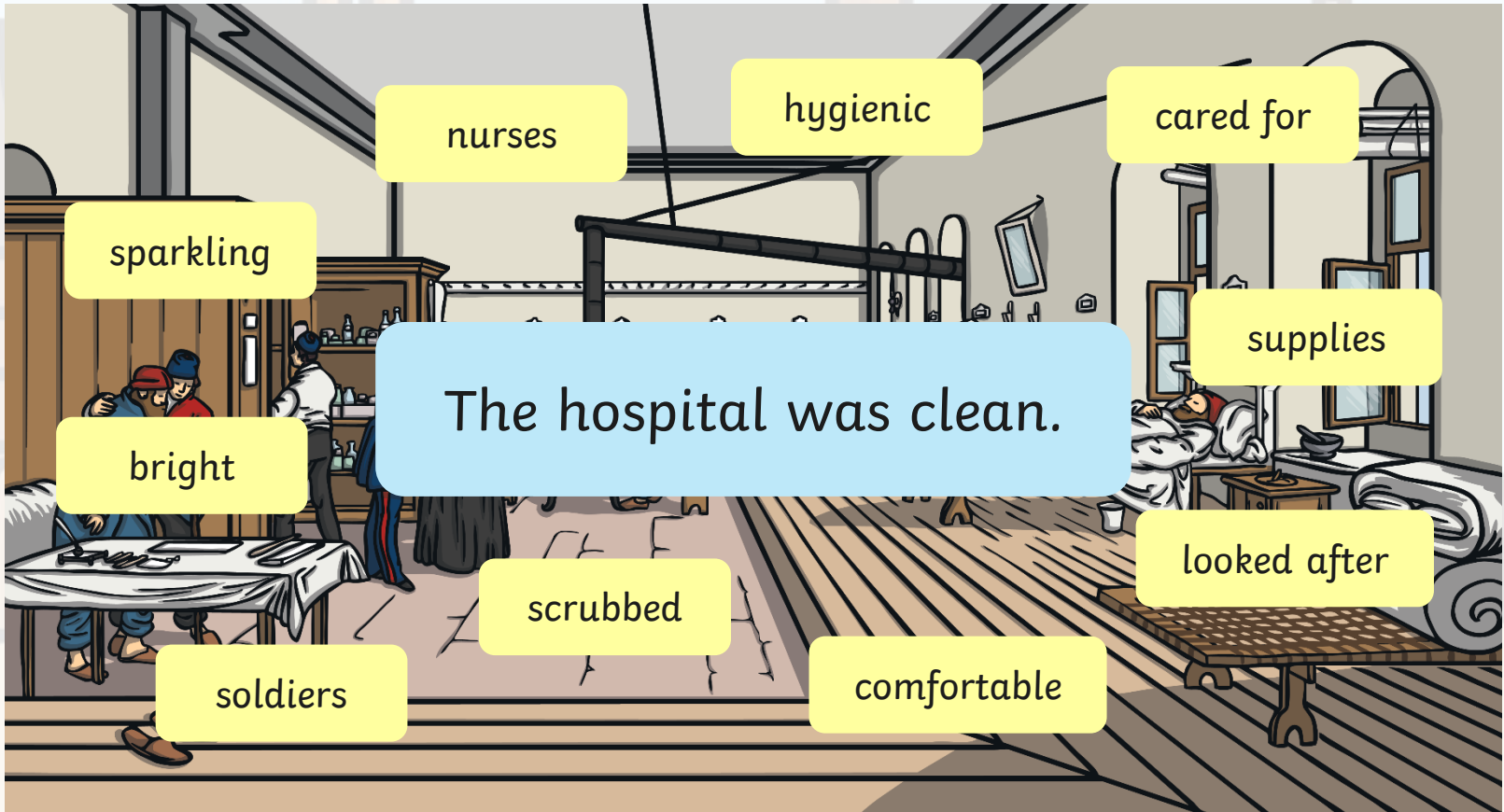
Where is the noun? Which word describes the noun?

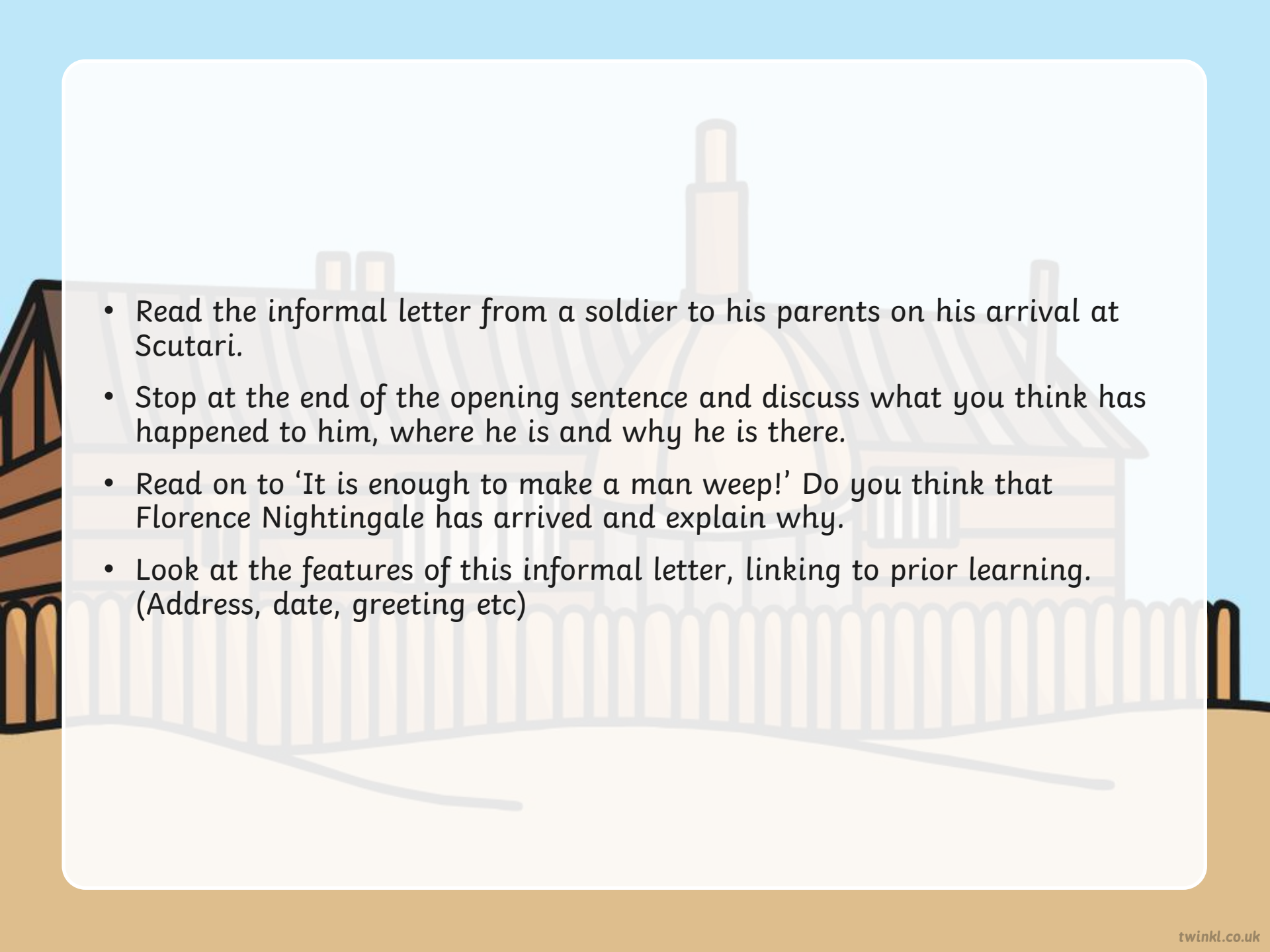
Can you choose some other words to swap or add to the sentence to extend it?



Or Hospital of Hope?

Now try describing the hospital after Florence and her team have set to work.



- 
- The background features a stylized illustration of a building with a large central dome and several smaller domes or chimneys. In the foreground, there is a white picket fence. The scene is set against a light blue sky and a tan ground. The entire illustration is rendered in a simple, cartoonish style with flat colors and black outlines.
- Read the informal letter from a soldier to his parents on his arrival at Scutari.
 - Stop at the end of the opening sentence and discuss what you think has happened to him, where he is and why he is there.
 - Read on to 'It is enough to make a man weep!' Do you think that Florence Nightingale has arrived and explain why.
 - Look at the features of this informal letter, linking to prior learning. (Address, date, greeting etc)

17th September 1854

Dear Ma and Pa,

First of all, let me tell you I am alive, which is a lot better than many of the brave lads out here so do not worry yourselves.

The battles have been brutal and long and my luck finally ran out when I was shot by the Russians last week. Part of the bullet has gone straight into my leg, where it sits even now.

I was dragged off the battlefield and carried here, to this filthy heap that calls itself a hospital.

Ma, I tell you, this place is worse than anything I have ever seen... and the stink! It is enough to make a man weep!

I was pulled off the horse and cart and lumbered across a courtyard into a dark, cold room. It took me a while to realise what I was lying on, what with the pain and all, but slowly, I realised it was another soldier! We were picked up like sacks of coal, not a care about us at all. To make matters worse, the filth from rats and men lay all around with not a single person to help us.

A doctor scraped around in my wound (the pain was like nothing I have ever known) and my leg was bandaged with a filthy rag. I was given a bowl of soup with a slab of bread so mouldy it had a green crust sprouting on it. That I am still here is a miracle, for no human being is doing much to help us here.

But still, I am alive and as I lie here listening to the screams of these poor souls, I know that I am one of the luckier ones.

I think of you and the family often and am very much looking forward to getting home soon.

Your son,

Arthur

Writing a Informal Letter

Now write your letter to Arthur's mum and dad.

Remember! You are writing as if *you are Arthur*.



Imagine that you are Arthur and write another letter back home to Ma and Pa describing the changes that have happened at the hospital and to the soldiers' care since Florence arrived.