

Diary Entries

Key Features

Does your diary entry include...

the date and/or time that the entry was written?

writing in the first person?

writing in past tense for main events?

events written in chronological order?

personal emotions and feelings?

paragraphs (including an introduction and conclusion) to organise your writing?

an informal style of writing?

time conjunctions and adverbials?

Introductions

At last, I have been able to...

Dear diary...

It's been a while since I last wrote in here.

I'm not sure where to begin.

Today I received the best news.

What a brilliant day it has been!

You will never believe what has happened!

Emotions Word Bank

appalled

astonished

content

delighted

devastated

elated

exasperated

flabbergasted

frustrated

heartbroken

infuriated

jubilant

mellow

miserable

outraged

repulsed

shattered

speechless

thrilled

uneasy

Time Conjunctions and Adverbials

after that

as soon as possible

at last

at precisely...

before eating

before we had finished

finally

immediately afterwards

in the beginning

in the end

just at that moment

just then

later

next

several months later

suddenly

until then

when

while

without warning

First Person

Writing in the first person uses these pronouns:

I we me us

Past Tense

Writing in the past tense means that you are writing about something that has already happened.

Last night, we went to the fairground.

Key Features

the date and/or
time that the
diary was written

first person

past tense

chronological order

personal emotions
and feelings

introduction

time conjunctions
and adverbials

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Dear diary,

Today concluded my visit to Britain. Although it was an enjoyable trip, there is one thing that I am still worried about. If those barbarians in the north decide to attack us Romans, there is nothing to stop them.

After thinking about this day and night, I finally came up with a plan! We will build a wall that runs from sea to sea and separates the Roman Empire from Caledonia. My army shall begin the work right away. When it is finished, the wall will be full of guarded gates, observation towers and deep ditches to prevent any intruders. Although it will be 80 miles long, it will keep us protected!

I must admit, when I first told people about my plan, they weren't very impressed. However, I reminded them that we don't want any threat to the Roman Empire and they began to agree with me. We agreed to sit down tomorrow to draw up an official plan so that work can begin as soon as possible. This might be the most exciting thing that I've done as emperor!

I shall keep you updated as my plans progress.

Hadrian



Key Vocabulary

adverbial: An adverbial is a word or phrase that is used as an adverb to give you more information about a verb or clause.

chronological: If something is written in chronological order, it means that the events are written in the order that they happened in.

first person: Writing from the writer's perspective using the pronouns 'I', 'we', 'me' and 'us'.

informal: Informal writing has a relaxed, friendly style. It is suitable for everyday language and conversation and may use slang words.

past tense: Writing about something that has already happened.

time conjunction: A time conjunction is a single word or phrase that links ideas together and tells the reader when something is happening.