Diary Writing

When writing a diary entry, you write about a day in **your** **own** life.

Diary entries retell the events that had happened on that day to the person writing it and how they felt.

**What words do you think you will use when writing a diary from your point of view?**

When writing a diary, you should include the date of the day you are writing about. The date may be written at the top of the page or you may choose to include the date in your first sentence.

**Past Tense**

When writing a diary, you always write in the past tense. **Why do you think this is?**

The reason for writing in past tense is because we are writing about something that has already happened. You are looking back and remembering in detail what happened throughout the day.

**First Person**

Remember as you are writing the diary from your point of view you need to use words such as “I”, “my”, “we” and “our”. These words allow the reader to know that it is your point of view and we call this writing in the **first person**.

**Detail and description**

When you write a diary you need to write as if you were there. Which is easy when you’re writing about a day in your own life! The best way to do this is by using lots of detail and descriptive words.

**What descriptive words can you think of to describe something that you saw, smelt, heard, felt recently?**

Focus on just one day e.g. whilst playing with your sister or brother in the garden, maybe you smelt your dinner being cooked by your mum or dad or the next door neighbours mowing the fresh grass in their garden.

**Chronology**

You should think about the order of the events that you are writing about in your diary. Usually, you would write about the events of the day in the order in which they happened. What did you do when you woke up? What did you do at the end of the day?

When writing a diary you should use time connective words like “next”, “first” and “then” to allow the reader to make sense of when the events happened throughout the day.

**Feelings and emotions**

Diary writing allows the writer to express how they are feeling. Your feelings might change so you might wake up feeling fed up and then become happier when your grandparents phone for a chat. Traditionally, you would write how you felt about what has happened throughout the day.