

**Diary entry 7-9**

29<sup>th</sup> Sept 2013

Dear diary,

I'm starting to understand that my dad brought me here for more than just a holiday. Since being here and meeting the whole family, I've learnt that family is really important. Some people think that family is just a group of people that live together, and that's what I used to think back home, but that's wrong. Family are the ones that are always there for you no matter what. They are the ones that love you and the ones that will always be there by your side. You should never take that for granted. I am very proud of myself because today I helped out my little cousin Minh.

Minh was in town running around like a headless chook. "Andy" she screamed out loudly and everyone just started at her. I walked up to Minh and she was holding a pile of papers, I asked her what they are for and she said "I have lost Rusty, I can't find her anywhere and I need to find her or else I won't be able to sleep." Rusty is Minh's pet dog, it's like her best friend; she takes Rusty everywhere she goes. Minh handed me some papers and said "go around and hand these to people." So I did.

As I was walking through the majestic park with green grass and red and yellow blooming flowers, I saw this bright green bush shaking. It was only me in the park, I couldn't see anyone. I walked over to the bush and there she was, Rusty, digging a hole in the moist soil and then out she comes with a white, shiny bone. I called Minh and she came bolting over. The look on Minh's face was unbelievable, she was so happy to see Rusty again. Minh thanked me and I said back to her, "that's what family is for."

I am so glad to have a loving and caring family. I like being the big cousin the others look up to. When I get home, I'm going to make sure that mum and Mai know how much I love them and appreciate them. I've realised you're never too cool to spend time with your family.

Andy

Traditional diary features include date and salutation

Self-reflection indicated by use of the pronoun (I) and past tense (brought)

Insight into personal thoughts and feelings shows the growth and development of the character

Recounting recent events

Suitable to quote others who are involved with the events you are reflecting on or recall and reflect upon what you said to them

Concludes with some goals for the future based on the life lesson learned

Sign off

From: Modified student work sample, Craigieburn S.C 2013