

## Diary Entries

### What is a diary entry?

Diary entries can be a useful form to use when the purpose is to reveal a character's inner thoughts and emotions or show the changes they go through in response to what is happening in their life. Diaries can be written for reflection, to keep a record of important events, to vent frustrations or to make secret plans for the future.

### Voice

Diaries are written in 1<sup>st</sup> person from the perspective of the person to whom the diary belongs. They also use 3<sup>rd</sup> person to refer to others who feature in the person's life at the time when they are writing.

### Language & Grammar

Diaries usually use informal language and reflect the personality of the character or person writing them. They are usually descriptive about the writer's feelings and thoughts about events occurring in their life. Diaries can combine the use of past tense; to reflect on what has already happened, present tense; to talk about how they currently feel and future tense; to plan what their next steps or goals might be.

### Structure and Organisation

Diary entries can be written as a sequence of shorter texts. Each one should be dated. Each entry gives an insight into a particular time in a character's life; it is not a whole narrative. Usually each entry will start with a greeting (dear diary for example) and be signed off at the end.

*Exemplar Years 7 – 9*

*Exemplar Years 10 – 12*