

A Day in the Life: Diary Detective

Learning objective: To identify and use the features of a diary entry, including first-person pronouns, chronological order, and emotive language.

Max the monkey has been keeping a secret diary of his jungle adventures, but he has accidentally scrambled his notes! Read the sentences below and number them from 1 to 6 to put them in the correct chronological order. Then, identify the diary features by filling in the gaps using the word bank.

Word bank: chronological · first-person · emotive · past tense · date · informal

1. 1. I woke up at sunrise and climbed to the top of the Great Banyan tree. 2. I finally finished my hardest maths puzzle of the day! 3. The sun was shining brightly as I swung through the vines. 4. Dear Diary, today was the most exciting day ever. 5. I felt so proud when I solved the riddle. 6. I am going to have a nap now before dinner. (6 marks)

2. Diary entries are usually written in the _____ tense because the events have already happened. (1 mark)

3. You should use _____ pronouns like 'I', 'me', or 'my' because the diary is about yourself. (1 mark)

4. Writing in _____ order means you tell the events in the order they actually happened. (1 mark)

5. Why is it important to include a date at the top of your diary entry? (2 marks)

6. Find an example of an 'emotive' word in the jumbled sentences above that describes how Max felt. (1 mark)

Draw: Draw a picture of Max the monkey writing in his diary under a canopy of jungle leaves. Include a small snack nearby for him to enjoy while he writes!



Extension challenge: Imagine you are Pip the caterpillar. Write three sentences for a diary entry about your day, making sure to use the past tense and at least one word that describes how you were feeling.