

Diary Entries: A Day in the Life of an Explorer

Learning objective: To write a personal diary entry using the first-person perspective, past tense, and emotive language to recount events.

Read each question carefully. Use your best handwriting and remember to include the features of a diary: the date, informal tone, and feelings about the day's events.

Imagine you are Max the monkey, who has just spent the entire day tracking patterns in the jungle canopy to solve a complex maths puzzle. You are now sitting down to write in your secret diary about your discovery.

Word bank: chronological · first-person · adverbials · reflection · emotive · conjunctions · past tense

1. Why is it important to use the first-person pronoun ('I', 'me', 'my') when writing a diary entry? Explain your reasoning. (2 marks)

2. Write an opening sentence for your diary entry that includes a time adverbial (e.g., 'Early this morning' or 'As the sun began to set'). (2 marks)

3. Look at the list of emotions: 'frustrated', 'elated', 'puzzled', 'triumphant'. Choose two and write a sentence for each to describe how Max might have felt after solving his jungle puzzle. (3 marks)

4. Compare and contrast a diary entry with a formal report. Justify why a diary entry is more suitable for expressing personal thoughts. (3 marks)

5. Max found a hidden sequence of numbers carved into a tree. Write a short paragraph describing this discovery. Use at least two expanded noun phrases to add detail. (4 marks)

Draw: Draw a picture of Max the monkey sitting in a comfortable tree hollow, writing in his diary by the light of a firefly lantern.



Extension challenge: What might happen if someone else found Max's diary and read it without his permission? Write a short prediction about how Max would react and how he might change his diary habits in the future.