

Tudor Life: A Personal Diary Entry

Learning objective: To understand and describe daily life during the Tudor period by adopting the perspective of a person living in the 16th century.

Imagine you are living in England during the Tudor era. Use your knowledge of Tudor homes, clothing, food, and jobs to write a diary entry. Describe a typical day, ensuring you use rich vocabulary and historical details. Refer to the word bank for inspiration.

Word bank: monarch · tunic · pottage · timber-framed · black-and-white · apprenticeship · market · hierarchy · social status · hearth

1. Setting the Scene: Where are you, and what does your home look like? Describe the architecture and the atmosphere inside. (3 marks)

2. The Daily Routine: Explain what your job or role is during the day. How does your daily work compare to the life of a wealthy noble? (4 marks)

3. Food and Sustenance: Describe what you ate for your main meal. Justify why your diet might be different from someone living in the royal court. (3 marks)

4. Comparing Lifestyles: Contrast your daily life with the life of a child from a different social class. What items would they have that you do not? (4 marks)

5. Explain why the monarch's decisions might have affected your family's life during this period. (3 marks)

6. What might happen if you were invited to the royal palace? How would you need to change your behaviour to fit in with the expectations of the time? (3 marks)

Extension challenge: Imagine Ellie the elephant has travelled back in time to visit your Tudor town. Write a short paragraph explaining the three most surprising things she sees during her visit, using historical evidence to support her observations.