

WW2 Home Front: My Wartime Diary Entry

Learning objective: To understand the experiences of children living on the Home Front during the Second World War through the persona of a character.

Imagine you are living in Britain during the 1940s. Use this template to write a diary entry from the perspective of a child experiencing the impact of the war. Think about what Ellie the elephant taught us about history: try to include details about rationing, air raids, or the evacuation process to make your entry authentic.

Word bank: rationing · evacuee · air-raid shelter · gas mask · Home Front · blackout · identity card · Anderson shelter

1. The Date and Setting: Write the date of your entry and describe where you are (e.g., in a busy city or a quiet village in the countryside). (2 marks)

2. Daily Life and Rationing: Describe a meal you had today using rationed items. How did it feel to use your ration book? (3 marks)

3. The Blackout: Describe how you prepared your home for the blackout this evening. Why were these measures so important for safety? (3 marks)

4. Evacuation Experience: If you are an evacuee, describe your journey to the countryside and how you felt meeting your host family for the first time. (4 marks)

5. Reflections: What is one thing you miss most about life before the war, and one hope you have for the future? (2 marks)

Extension challenge: Research the cost of common food items during WW2 and compare them to current prices in £. Write a short paragraph explaining why items like sugar and butter were strictly rationed.