

Diary Writing Masterclass with Pip the Bookworm

Learning objective: To understand the features, tone, and structure of diary writing, focusing on first-person perspective and emotive language.

Read each flashcard carefully to master the art of diary writing. Use these techniques to help Pip record his latest literary adventures.

What is the primary point of view used in a diary entry?

First-person perspective, using pronouns such as 'I', 'me', 'my', and 'we'.

Why is it important to use chronological order in a diary?

Diaries are a record of events as they happen; chronological order ensures the sequence of the day's experiences is clear and logical.

Which tense should a diary entry usually be written in?

Past tense, because the entry is a reflection of events that have already occurred.

What is 'emotive language' and why is it used in diaries?

Emotive language uses words that express feelings (e.g., 'elated', 'devastated'). It is used to convey the writer's personal thoughts and subjective experience.

Define 'reflective writing' in the context of a diary.

Reflective writing is when the author considers their actions or feelings, thinking about what they learned or how they might react differently next time.

What are adverbials of time? Give an example.

Adverbials of time tell the reader when something happened. Examples include 'Later that afternoon', 'Shortly after lunch', or 'As the sun began to set'.

Explain why diary writing is considered 'subjective'.

It is subjective because it represents one person's unique perspective, personal opinions, and feelings rather than a neutral, factual report.

What is the purpose of including 'colloquialisms' in a diary?

Colloquialisms are informal, conversational words or phrases. They help make the diary feel authentic and personal to the writer's own voice.

How does a writer create a sense of intimacy in a diary?

By sharing secret thoughts, hopes, or insecurities that the writer would not express to the public, creating a private 'voice'.

Identify the key components of a diary entry structure.

Date, time (optional), an informal opening (e.g., 'Dear Diary'), body paragraphs, and a reflective closing statement.