

Reflecting on Traditions: The Easter Story Diary Entry

Learning objective: To analyse the narrative structure of the Easter story and express empathetic responses through a creative diary entry from the perspective of a historical observer.

Imagine you are a witness living in ancient Jerusalem during the events of the first Easter. Use the template below to recount the unfolding events. Focus on using descriptive language, emotive verbs, and sensory details to convey the atmosphere of the city. Refer to your word bank to enhance your vocabulary.

Word bank: solemn · anticipation · transformation · commemoration · perspective · significance · resilience · tradition · reflection

1. Setting the Scene: Describe the atmosphere in the city of Jerusalem on the day you arrived. What could you see, hear, and smell? (3 marks)

2. The Turning Point: Explain why the events of this week caused such a significant change in the mood of the local people. (4 marks)

3. Character Perspective: How did the actions of the central figures influence your own feelings? Compare and contrast your initial expectations with your final reflections. (5 marks)

4. Justifying Significance: Why do you think these specific historical events have been remembered and commemorated for centuries? (4 marks)

5. Hypothetical Outcome: What might have happened to the community if these events had not taken place? Justify your reasoning. (4 marks)

6. Creative Synthesis: Write a final reflection explaining how the concept of 'hope' links the beginning of your diary entry to the end. (5 marks)

Extension challenge: Research how different cultures celebrate the themes of renewal and spring during this season. Create a comparison table identifying three similarities and three differences between your historical diary entry and a modern-day celebration. Present your findings to the class, justifying why these traditions have persisted over time.