Diary Writing Assessment: A Day in the Life

Learning objective: To demonstrate understanding of diary features, including first-person perspective, chronological order, and the use of past tense.

Read the diary entry below carefully. Use your knowledge of Year 3 English to answer the questions that follow. Write your answers clearly in the space provided.

Monday 12th May

Dear Diary, today was the most exciting day at the forest school! This morning, Max the monkey helped me build a bridge across the stream using fallen branches. It was quite tricky to balance, but we finally succeeded. Later, I felt so proud when we spotted a rare blue butterfly near the oak tree. I hope tomorrow is just as adventurous.

Word bank: chronological · first-person · past tense · emotions · conjunctions · time adverbials

1. Which personal pronoun does the writer use to show this is written in the first person? Give one example from the text. (1 mark)

2. Identify two time adverbials used in the passage to show the order of events. (2 marks)

3. Why is a diary usually written in the past tense? Explain your reasoning. (2 marks)

4. Find and copy an adjective from the text that describes the writer's feelings. (1 mark)

5. The writer mentions working with Max. If they had to buy supplies for the bridge, and they spent £4 on rope and £3 on tape, how much did they spend in total? Use a full sentence to answer. (2 marks)

6. Rewrite this sentence to include a conjunction (such as 'because', 'although', or 'so'): 'The bridge was tricky. We finished it.' (2 marks)

7. Imagine you spent the afternoon stargazing with Nova the owl. Write a diary entry for the evening. You must include the date, at least two time adverbials, and a description of how you felt. (5 marks)

Draw: Draw a picture of the bridge that the writer and Max the monkey built together in the forest.

Extension challenge: Challenge: Can you add a sentence to your diary entry that uses an exclamation mark to show strong surprise? Total: /25