

Diary entry

Keep a diary, but don't just list all the things you did during the day. Pick one incident and write it up as a brief vignette.

Give it colour, include quotes and dialogue, shape it like a story with a beginning, middle and end—as if it were a short story or an episode in a novel. It's great practice. Do this while figuring out what you want to write a book about. The book may even emerge from within this running diary.

An Introduction

- **A diary is a personal record of incidents experienced by a writer and his/her resultant feelings, emotions and reactions.**
- **It is a daily record, written in the latter half of the day, before retiring for the night.**
- **Writing a diary is like having a conversation with an intimate friend. The writer can shed all pretences and be him/herself.**

Here is the format for writing a diary entry for school –

1. Date – Specify the date on which you are writing
2. Day – Write on what day the diary is being written
3. Time – At what time you are writing the entry
4. Content – This is the main part of the diary entry, here you write about your day or about that enemy of yours
5. Your Name – You can sign too if you want, it is your diary after all!!

The format for the Diary Entry is simple ~



Date:

Day:

Time:

Dear Diary,

Content

Name

Here are a few tips for students to use while writing their Diary Entry –

#1 Think about what you have to write. Think about the topic, and what you can include in the content.

#2 Take about five minutes asking yourself questions –

- What was the important thing you wanted to talk about?
- Why is it important?
- Do you want to fix something?
- Why does it need to be fixing?
- How do you feel about it?
-and more

#3 Now start writing your diary entry by answering each question one by one.

#4 Formatting is important, and no, not the outlining one, but the one that decides the theme of the premise. Follow the same theme throughout the page so as to keep on track of your story.

#5 Be precise, clear your thoughts and don't be hard on yourself. Let your writing flow, because your diary is a judgment-free zone and won't need everything to be perfect.

Tone and Language

- **Mostly, the simple past tense is used to record incidents and reactions that have already taken place. However, the present and future tense are also used, depending on whether the writer wishes to make a resolution or refer to a planning.**
- **Use the first person narration and the active voice.**
- **Use a language that is chatty, friendly and informal.**
- **Though informal, refrain from using short forms and slang for this diary entry will be assessed for writing style and mechanics.**
- **Emphasise on feelings, emotions and reactions rather than describing incidents.**

Indian summers are really unbearable. One day the maximum temperature shot up to 47°C. It was most miserable day of the year for you. Record the experience in your diary.

Answer:

Jhansi

20th July, 20

XX Friday, 8:00 pm

Dear Diary,

Indian summers can be really unbearable. And who can live in peace and comfort when the heat waves, start blowing over the plains of north India. It was 20th of July, 20XX, the most miserable day of my life. It was certainly the hottest day of the season. By noon the heat became unbearable. To avoid dehydration, we had already had several litres of cold water. I had to go to the market. I forgot to wear a cap. By the time I reached home, I was very miserable and started vomiting. To make things still worse, there was a breakdown of electric power during most part of the night. Without the working of fans and air-conditioners, we felt miserable. We spent a sleepless and miserable night.

Swaragini

For practice

- 1. Write a diary entry in about 80-100 words describing how you have spent puja vacation this year.***
- 2. Today you visited some historical places in the neighbourhood of your city. Make a diary entry about the visit./***