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ENGLISH

Diary Entry

What is a Diary Entry?

A diary entry is a personal record of events and feelings affecting the writer. It is written for personal record and reflection; therefore, it may not always be objective in its view. It almost always details the events occurring in the present. It includes facts, observations, perceptions and descriptions all according to the writer's world view.

Format of a Diary Entry

Day & Date:

Time:

Heading (Optional)

Dear Diary,

Main Body

Concluding Line

Name

Tips for Writing a Diary Entry

- The word limit of a diary entry is 150 words. Everything you wish to say should be encompassed within this limit.
- Remember that a diary entry is not a documentary. Include only those things which were the highlight of the day.
- Spend a few moments going over the entire day and categorising the events which affected you the most.
- Focus on the emotions, feelings and thoughts that the day's event(s) triggered.
- Use a personal confessional tone as the entry is a record of your personal life and past.
- Maintain the correct chronological order while noting things. Avoid skipping from one thought to the other.
- An anticipatory note at the end of the entry and looking forward to the following day is a good way of concluding an entry.
- Use grammatically correct sentences and avoid spelling mistakes. Also avoid using long complex sentences.

Sample Diary Entries

Sample 1

Sunday, 21st December 2014

9.00 pm

Picnic to Shangrila Resort

Dear Diary,

I am very sorry for not writing in you last night. I was extremely tired after enjoying the entire day at Shangrila Resort. I could not even keep my eyes opened. The place was so huge that by the end of the day we still felt like we did not see the entire place. It had one large pool for adults, two pools for children over 10 years and a really shallow yet very cute pool for small children. There was a large waterfall as well. The entire place was surrounded with grass and trees. It felt as if we were in a real jungle. They also had speakers hidden in the trees giving sound effects of wild animals. The food too was fresh and filling. It gave us energy to go on playing. We had a great time and wished we could stay there forever.

Ashok

Sample 2

Friday, 5th June 2015

8.00 pm

Struggle for Admission

Dear Diary,

Our board exam results have not yet been declared and already the news of malpractice is making the rounds. There are cases of attempted bribery reported for admissions into esteemed colleges. Such news is really very disheartening. Especially when coupled with the various reservation schemes already existing. This leaves no scope for children like me who do not fit in any minority groups nor can sum up large amounts for donation. This is a very serious problem, and I am really threatened by it. Even if the malpractices are ignored or hushed up, as very often they will be, the fact that these students will not excel in their courses is inevitable, thus causing a loss of the country's resources employed in their training. I do not know what to look forward to anymore. I just hope and pray that such practices are tracked and nipped in the bud.

Priti

Sample 3

Friday, 8th May 2015

8.00 am

A Strange Dream

Dear Diary,

Last night, I had a very strange dream. I saw that two of my friends and I were going to attend my cousin's wedding reception. On our way a rather strange-looking man intercepted us. Despite our protests, he insisted on narrating to us his tale of resentment. He looked unnaturally old with skinny limbs and glittering eyes, and the tale he narrated seemed too surreal to be true. He said he used to be a mariner who shot an innocent albatross who was guiding their ship out of the perilous ice at sea. This act enraged a powerful spirit who used to love the bird. His actions resulted in the death of his crewmates. Also, he was doomed to feel a great deal of agony which was relieved only when he narrated the tale to somebody. The dream taught me a valuable lesson: Never hurt the hand which helps you.

Jiya

Sample 4

Monday, 23rd March 2015

9.27 PM

Patriotism and our Nation

Dear Diary,

Today during history class our teacher shared with us stories of a few freedom fighters. They intrigued me a lot as I could never imagine people giving up everything valuable to them for the nation and its people. These people are models of inspiration, especially in today's day and age. The chief concern of every person these days is limited to his own luxuries and to that of his family. This has to change. As we see through history, progress can be achieved only when people give up their own interests in favour of the betterment of the larger society. The freedom fighters did their part in the struggle for our independence. It is our duty now to safeguard this freedom handed to us as a gift. We need to learn from them the value of selfless service and perseverance to do our part and give back to our country for the love and care we receive.

Komal

Sample 5

Tuesday, 7th July 2015

8.00 PM

Elocution Competition Tomorrow

Dear Diary,

Tomorrow is the judgement day as they call it—the elocution competition that I have been preparing for all these days. I will be participating in it tomorrow. Just the thought of it has me shaken. My class teacher knows my insecurities about speaking to crowds. May be that's why she forced me to take this up. I wonder what will happen tomorrow. I have prepared a fairly good speech with my elder brother's help. I am proud of him, though I will never admit it to him. He has a good command over the language. He is confident that I will do a good job. I hope I do. I've already practised it so many times that I can recite it in my sleep. I have to go to sleep now or else I will be late to school.

Riya