



11+ Creative Writing — Diary Entry

Write a diary entry describing the last day of the school term.

Wednesday 22nd July 2020

Dear Diary,

Notes for student

- This is a good diary entry opening, well done Oscar.
- Well done for writing the date out in full at the beginning of your diary entry.

It has finally arrived... the last day of the school year; after months of relentless work (and behaving like beavers!) I am now free to do whatever I want for a month, I am ecstatically excited just thinking about it! On my way to school this morning, the sun joined in with my celebrating by glowing even brighter, it was a golden orb hanging in the sky and caused me to sweat like a dog.

Notes for student

- This is a great start to your diary entry Oscar!
- You have used varied punctuation really well; good work! To improve, remember that you need to use a capital letter after an ellipsis.
- Brilliant use of writer's tricks Oscar! WOW! You've used personification, alliteration, a metaphor and a simile, all in one sentence! Amazing work.
- As a point for improvement, I think 'celebrations' would have worked better than 'celebrating'.

I was as red as a tomato when I arrived, and was quickly shooed into the assembly hall; in front of us stood the imposing figure of the headmaster,

the supreme commander of the establishment. He gave a short speech on wishing the Year 6s a prosperous future (and boring us with the fact that we should reflect on the good year we've had) and we gave him a hearty round of applause at the end of gathering.

Notes for student

- Again, you've done a great job using the writer's tricks. Well done.
- Remember to reread your work through at the end. Even if you're working to a small deadline of 10 minutes, try to leave a minute to reread at the end and check for mistakes. For example here you have missed a word at the end of the paragraph; "applause at the end of **the** gathering".
- Well done for targeting your writing towards the mark scheme.

We had a surprise waiting for us in the classroom - a pile of games so tall it seemed a mighty mountain of merriment had been erected in the room. I spent the whole joyous afternoon playing with my friends, chatting away happily about our plans for the summer holiday; the noise babbling of cheerful children drifted throughout the school.

Today has been so exhausting, at least tomorrow I can sleep in like a lazy cat!

Notes for student

- This is a good, conclusive ending to a brilliant diary entry Oscar! Well done you!
 - You have used MAPSO and SEW brilliantly and also used a lot of complex punctuation! Wow!
 - To improve, remember that when writing a diary entry you **need** to include your thoughts and feelings more so than in a story. Next time, try and always describe how it would make you feel.
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Progress Plan

- Overall, this is an amazing diary entry Oscar! You should be proud of yourself, you've done a great job.
 - You have done a good job of **describing** what is happening in your story but don't forget to also describe how your character feels. Are they sad or excited? How did the "mighty mountain of merriment" make you feel?
 - Also remember to include the five senses: what can you see, hear, smell, taste and feel? This will help you deepen your description.
 - Remember to always reread your work when you have finished. This will help you check for small mistakes that you may have missed. Even when writing for only ten minutes, try to leave a minute at the end to check for small mistakes as it'll help you get a better grade.
 - As an extension task, go back through your diary entry and write down three sentences you could have added which show your characters thoughts and feelings.
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Your work was marked by Ellie.

Qualifications: 1st class English and History degree

University: University of Southampton

Lives in: Surrey

A bit about me: I studied creative writing and children's literature while at University, as well as the Tudors and Cleopatra. In my free time I swim, read and play Pokemon. I love to write and I hope to become a published author one day.

This work was reviewed and approved by James Davey, The Exam Coach.