

# Diary Writing Planning

When you write a diary, it is very easy to focus only on the events. However, this can make your diary very dull and more like a list; it doesn't allow the reader to truly understand the diarist.

What makes a piece of diary writing really effective, is allowing the reader to understand your thoughts and feelings, whether you are writing as yourself or using empathy to write as someone else.

You can start with a frame like this to make notes of what you want to write. Look at the features in one of the documents to help you too.

**Paragraph 1: What has happened? What are you writing about? Describe sights and sounds. You could also use figurative language (similes/metaphor) to help describe. Avoid writing too much, focus on one or two things.**

**How are you feeling? Consider using a range of words to express your feelings. Use emotive language to help the reader understand. (Emotive language: When you describe things in such a way, that you make the reader feel really sorry for you.) Example:** Non-emotive version: Another person in the bar was injured by the man's glass. **Emotive version:** An innocent bystander **suffered facial injuries** when the **thug launched** his glass across the bar.

**What have you been thinking about? Do you have any particular worries or highlights? Is there anything you are looking forward to or perhaps you are dreading something?**

**Is there a particular anecdote you could share in your diary? An anecdote is a short, interesting story – something in particular that happened.**

**End your diary.**