

# Writing Your Diary Entry

## TOP TIPS

- Use the video to help you as it uses many interesting words.
- For example: *So, feeling both nervous and excited, I helped father to launch our rowing boat into the raging sea.*
- Try to include as many of our powerful words as possible.
- <https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/articles/zmmj7nb>

## TASK

- Today, you will write or type and edit a diary entry written by Grace Darling.
- Use your plan to remind you of your ideas. Then further develop your ideas and organise your writing using paragraphs.
- Use the writing checklist to check your story has everything it needs
- Use the word mat to help you connect or start each of your paragraphs.

## HOW LONG SHOULD MY DIARY ENTRY BE?

- Maximum: We suggest 2 A4 pages if writing or 1 A4 page if typing
- Minimum: We suggest 1 A4 page if writing or  $\frac{1}{2}$  a page if typing.

## WHEN YOU FINISH EDITING

Once you have edited your work, read your diary entry aloud to yourself or to someone else, if you can. Then underneath your entry in a different colour pen or pencil, write down the following:

1. **Two** (2) things that you really **like** about your diary entry.
2. **One** (1) thing that you would like to **improve**. Maybe you missed something from the checklist?

If you can, ask a friend or family member what they like about your diary entry and how they think you could improve it next time.

## WHAT ELSE CAN YOU USE OR DO?

- Use a dictionary and/or thesaurus to help with spelling and finding synonyms.
- Take your time! Don't rush through it and think about how you want to write what you're saying, so that it makes sense when you read it back.
- Try use a voice-recording device to record you telling the story first. Then you can use that to help organise what you're saying before writing it.

# Diary Writing Checklist

## Did I...

Child

include the date and/or time?



write in the first person?

use past tense for the main events?



include an introduction to set the scene?

tell events in chronological order?

include personal emotions and feelings?



use time conjunctions and adverbials  
(e.g. after that, before lunch, until sunset)?

## Fronted Adverbials

Fronted Adverbials are words or phrases at the beginning of a sentence which are used to describe the action that follows.

Time	Frequency	Place	Manner	Possibility
Afterwards, Already, Always, Immediately, Last month, Now, Soon, Yesterday, Today, Tomorrow, Next year, In January, On Tuesday, In the morning, After a while, As soon as she could, Before long, All of a sudden, In the blink of an eye, Just then, Eventually, Later,	Often, Again, Daily, Weekly, Fortnightly, Yearly, Sometimes, Rarely, Every second, Twice a year, Once a minute, Once, Once or twice, Three times, Constantly, Regularly, Frequently, Infrequently, Occasionally, Rarely, Never in my life, Never before,	Above the clouds, Below the sea, Here, Outside, Over there, There, Under the ground, Upstairs, In the distance, Between the sea and the sky, Everywhere she looked, Around the tent, Back at the house, Nearby, Down by the cliffs, Behind the shed, In the wooden box, Over my bed, Somewhere near here, Far away, Wherever they went, North of here,	Sadly, Slowly, Happily, Awkwardly, Bravely, Like a ... , As quick as a flash, As fast as he could, Without a sound, Without warning, Unexpectedly, Unfortunately, Suddenly, Mysteriously, Frantically, Anxiously, Courageously, Silently, Curiously, Nervously, Rapidly, Carefully,	Almost unbelievably, Much admired, Nearly asleep, Quite understandably, Really happily, Perhaps, Maybe, Just arrived, Certainly amused, Obviously angry, Definitely confused, Completely exhausted, Barely alive, Out of breath, Decidedly unimpressed, Perfectly confident, Positively trembling with excitement, Purely practically, Somewhat flustered, Utterly joyous, Totally overwhelmed,



# Editing Your Diary Entry

## WHEN YOU'VE FINISHED WRITING

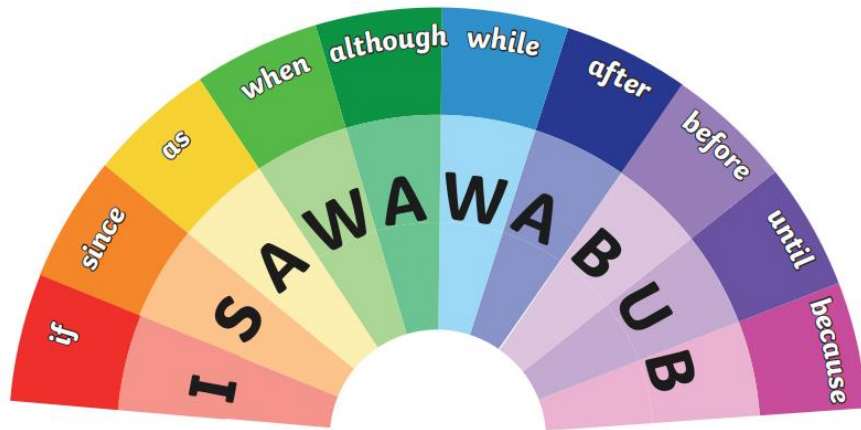
Look through your work for any editing you may have. Check through the following:

- Spellings
- Punctuation
- Grammar

P.S. If you are writing, use a different colour pen to make any editing changes. (It's up to you if you would like to re-write it)

## Subordinating Conjunctions

Here are 10 of the most common subordinating conjunctions. They are used at the beginning of a subordinating clause which is a clause that doesn't make sense on its own.

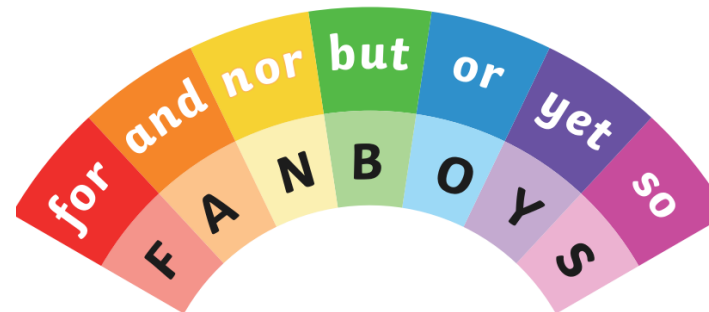


## Spellings... I need to know **almost all** of these:

accident	centre	experience	important	ordinary	reign
accidentally	century	experiment	interest	particular	remember
actual	certain	extreme	island	peculiar	sentence
actually	circle	famous	knowledge	perhaps	separate
address	complete	favourite	learn	popular	special
although	consider	February	length	position	straight
answer	continue	forwards	library	possess	strange
appear	decide	fruit	material	possession	strength
arrive	describe	grammar	medicine	possible	suppose
believe	different	group	mention	potatoes	surprise
bicycle	difficult	guard	minute	pressure	therefore
breath	disappear	guide	natural	probably	though
breathe	early	heard	naughty	promise	thought
build	earth	heart	notice	purpose	through
busy	eight	height	occasion	quarter	various
business	eighth	history	occasionally	question	weight
calendar	enough	imagine	often	recent	woman
caught	exercise	increase	opposite	regular	women

## Co-ordinating Conjunctions

There are seven co-ordinating conjunctions. They give equal importance to the words or sentences they connect.



Punctuation Power!	
<b>A</b>	Capital letters for the start of sentences, names and places.
.	A full stop at the end of a sentence.
!	Exclamation marks for exclamations or surprise.
?	Question marks for questions.
'	Apostrophes for showing something belongs to someone and to mark missing letters in contracted words, e.g. didn't.
,	Commas to separate items on a list.
“ ”	Inverted commas around speech.

Know your Prefixes
un- means not
pre- means before
mis- means wrong
super- means above
re- means again
sub- means under
inter- means between
anti- means against
auto- means self
im/ir/in/il- mean not

**Top Tip:** Use pronouns like **he, she, them** or **they** instead of repeating a name or names.

Front it Out!	
Use fronted adverbials with a comma.	
After the storm,	Running for his life,
Behind the clouds,	All of a sudden,
Before lunch,	Waiting anxiously

# OTHER GRAMMAR CHECKS

Super Suffixes!		
-ation		
preparation	sensation	
-ous		
courageous	curious	serious
-ly		
gently	angrily	frantically

**Expanded Noun Phrases:  
Get Descriptive!**

**the hideous, fire-breathing dragon with green scales**

**a magnificent, sparkling necklace with priceless diamonds**

Which is Witch? Don't Muddle Your Homophones	
there/their/they're	your/you're
our/are	accept/except
two/too/to	whether/weather

Does it All Agree?
Check through your work for:
was/were      is/are
Is your writing in the correct tense?

**Don't forget your paragraphs!**