

DIARY WRITING

(For Class IX) Question No. 3 : 8 marks

S.No-1

EXAMINATION SPECIFICATIONS

Write a diary in about 100-150 words based on visual or verbal cues.

What is a Diary Entry?

A diary is a record with discrete entries reporting on what has happened over the course of a day or a period. A diary may include a person's experiences and/or thoughts or feelings, including comments on current events outside the diary writer's direct experience. It is generally written not with the intention of being published as it stands, but for the diary writer's own use.

How to write a diary?

Diaries are a great way to keep track of your past and think about your future. You can make predictions about what will happen and see if they come true. You can see how you changed over time, and read over memories, having a few laughs. Anyone can write a diary.

1. Understand that eventually the diary will become your best friend, silent confessor, or witness. You will eventually trust your diary with anything, even your biggest secrets.
2. Put the date and day in the diary at the top of the page, e.g. Tuesday, September 28, 20xx. Put the time of writing the diary. e.g. 10 p.m.
3. Start writing the diary **only** if you really have interest in it. Do not just start writing because your friends are writing.
4. If you are writing a diary for the first time, always start with a small one. For the first few days you may love writing in a big diary, but after weeks the thought of writing may bother you. Keep your diary safely as it contains your own thoughts, feelings etc.
5. Try to write your diary at night because at that time only, you can describe the entire day's activities that took place.
6. Start writing! Write about how you feel and why you feel that way. You can write about any celebration or disaster that happened that day. Or you can write freely. Put your pen to the page and write whatever is on your mind. Write cool facts, important information, advice, tips, ideas, crafts, recipes, anything you want to keep secret...the list is endless.
7. Start with the morning. Describe how it went and do not leave out any detail. If you wanted the day to go better, write how and why. If you have a special grudge against somebody, have no fear in expressing it. Move on to the afternoon, then the evening and finally the night. Always say goodnight in the end and promise to tell more later.
8. If you have not written in the diary for a few weeks, then do not worry about it. You can surely put a new date and give the reason and apologize for it. After all, it is your friend! e.g., Sorry I could not write to you. I was terribly busy.
9. Always think that diary is a real person and not a non-living creature.
10. Add some doodles like a smiley face or anything that shows how you feel. You should only do this if you want to. It does make it more fun for some people. Another suggestion might be to draw your own portrait or picture. You also might want to write some more about how your day went. Was it generally positive or negative?

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11. Do not write bluff. Always write truthfully. This diary will always listen, never forget, never judge and nor will it ever reveal your secrets. So, do not worry about writing the truth in it, no matter how horrible it is.
12. Write about how you wish your day went. Say what you think would make it better. (Example: You got a B grade on your test today. You wish you had a A+.)
13. If you want to, end your entry with "Bye" or "Goodnight." Remember that this is completely optional.
14. Write truthfully in your diary. Write about your secrets which you cannot expose in front of others. It can be something you saw on TV or an old friend. It should be whatever you are and how it can relate back to you.
15. Try something of your own. For example, you can write at the end of every day, "The lesson I have learned is that when life gives you lessons..." and write a different ending to the sentence everyday. Be creative.
16. Congratulations! You have successfully written a diary. Make sure that you keep it hidden from sneaky siblings. And, don't tell them you even have a diary. Remember that your diary is a part of you, and the point of keeping a diary is so that you can refer back to it in the future.

SOLVED EXAMPLES

- 1 Recently you read a poem called "The Ant and the Cricket". You were impressed by the moral of the poem and wish to mail it to your friends. Write a diary entry of your feelings in about 100-150 words.

Tuesday

Oct 20, 20XX

10.30 p.m.

Dear Diary,

Today I read a poem called "The Ant and the Cricket" taken from the famous Aesop's Fables. Oh! what a beautiful poem it is. It is about a cricket, who used to sing all through the pleasant months of summer and spring. When winter arrived he found that there was no food left in his home. He went to an ant as he was starving. He requested the ant to shelter him from rain and to lend him some food. He said that he would repay it the next day. He added that if the ant did not give him some food, he would die of starvation and sorrow. The ant asked the cricket what he did during the warm weather. To which the cricket replied that he was busy singing all the time as he was very happy. At this the ant advised him to spend the winter also by dancing. Saying so, the ant turned the cricket out of his house.

The poet says that this is not a fable but truth. He goes on to add that some human beings are also like the cricket of this story. I think in real life also we do come across lazy bums, shirkers, excuse makers etc. who just invent excuses to get away from hard work.

Ashim and Nayan, my friends are perfect examples of shirkers. I think, I ought to mail this poem to them. I am sure they would get the message and try to change their attitude. Goodnight.

- 2** Imagine you wake up one morning and find a small puppy on your doorstep. You want to keep it as a pet but your parents are not too happy about it. Write a diary entry of how you persuaded them to let you keep it.

Sunday

November 12, 20XX

10 p.m.

Dear Diary,

Today morning I woke up when I heard a yelping sound outside the door of my house. I opened the door and I saw a beautiful white puppy. How did it come there, I don't know. But I took a fancy for this sweet looking puppy. I know my parents would never like to keep a dog in the house, especially my mother who hated the very sight of an animal running about the house. She felt that feeding a dog properly was also not easy. There was always a fear that it might bite somebody and cause much trouble.

I am glad that I was able to persuade her to accept my point of view. I told her that feeding the dog would be my responsibility. As far as its biting goes, I told them that a dog never bites a person unless provoked. Moreover, I assured them that I would undertake the responsibility for its regular medical checkup too. Seeing that I wanted a dog so much, my parents agreed. Although I dare say that they did so only unwillingly.

I can't tell you how happy I feel today. I have named the puppy as Jacky. Isn't Jacky a nice name for a cute white puppy who has taken a liking for me?

Goodnight.

- 3** Today you were not well and did not go to school. Write a diary entry of how you spent the day.

Wednesday

February 12, 20XX

9.30 p.m.

Dear Diary,

Today I was laid down with high fever. I could not get up as my body was very warm and aching a lot. Mom called papa and he phoned the doctor. Half an hour later the doctor came and gave me some tablets and syrup. Then he told my mom to apply cold water swabs on my forehead to bring down the temperature. Mom constantly checked the temperature with the help of a thermometer. After three hours the temperature of my body became normal.

However I was told to rest. How can a restless boy like me rest for so many hours? But my mother's strictness prevailed and I had nothing to do other than watching the television. When at eight O' clock papa returned from office he was glad to see me running about in the house. Obviously there were limits to my staying inactive. Oh God! I wish I never fall ill and I always have a day full of activities.

Goodnight.

- 4** Today is your birthday. You had a wonderful day with your friends and parents. Write a diary entry of the day.

Monday

January 20, 20XX

10 p.m.

Dear Diary,

Today it was my birthday. I woke up early and started making preparations to decorate the house. Papa had already bought coloured balloons and buntings.

So I started sticking them on the walls in the drawing room. I took my younger brother Rahul's help. Papa had already brought a birthday cake and kept it in the fridge last night. Mom began to prepare tasty dishes like *chowmein*, *bread pakoras*, *pavbhaji*, *pulao*, *chole-bhature* etc. By four O' clock all the dishes were ready. Oh what an aroma it was that came out from the kitchen. By five O' clock my friends started streaming in. My mom served them cold drinks and invited them to a game of tambola. Then there was a game of musical chairs. My friend Ashok won the game and he got a prize for it. Soon papa informed everyone that it was time for dinner. Wow! what a feast it was. We ate with relish. Everyone liked the tasty dishes. Some of my friends suggested we should assemble for a dance and everyone agreed. Everyone danced till eleven at night.

Oh! what a day it was. I enjoyed it fully.

Goodnight.

- 5** Imagine that one day you did not go to school as it was raining. Write a diary entry of how you spent the day at home.

Monday

July 28, 20XX

11 p.m.

Dear Diary,

Today I did not go to school as it was raining heavily. Going to school was out of question. So I placed my school bag on the table and stood near the window gazing at the scene outside. Water had collected everywhere. People were wading through water with their raincoats on. Some had umbrellas in their hands. I saw children playing in the rainwater and they cared little for their mothers who got angry. The roads became slippery.

I opened the door and went out in the rain. I joined the children who were floating paper boats in the rainwater puddles. Oh, what a sight it was! I too made some boats out of the sheets of paper and floated them in the water. When I reached home after an hour, my mother scolded me saying that I would catch cold. She towelled me dry and made me wear new clothes.

My mother could never understand the pleasure I got out of playing in the rain. Happy rainy day.

Goodnight.

- 6** While going home you come across many children on the roads at crossroads with begging bowls in their hands. You are shocked and disgusted at this unflattering picture of a country which boasts a major economy in the world. Record your experience in your diary in about 100-150 words.

Time: 8 : 15 p.m.

So many people live on the margins of society. Some leave their distant village huts and come to the cities to make their fortune. They land up as daily labourers, bringing in less than the bare minimum. Not being able to afford a sleeping berth, let alone a room in the city, they end up on footpaths. While going home I came across many children on the roads at crossroads with begging bowls in their hands. Children from extreme poverty-stricken backgrounds, often single-parent, run away from home. They start living a high-risk life on the streets and city footpaths, often doing heavy manual labour for one insufficient meal a day. I saw old people, abandoned by their family, also land up on the streets. Having no energy for work, they lie in street corners, huddled up in tattered clothes, with their worldly possessions in a small bundle, and beg. I really wonder how do the lives of these different people look like? How do they really get by from day to day? What hope, if any, do they have, that motivates them each day to get up and live another day? What are the struggles of life on the footpaths? How do they cope with the extremes of different seasons? There is no answer to these questions and no end to these problems. I really feel sorry for it.

XYZ

EXERCISE

1. Imagine you have a pet dog called Tommy. Write a diary entry of a Sunday you spent with him. (Word limit: 100-150 words)
2. Recently you heard that a school in Mumbai had showed how history can be fun, if taught in a novel way. Write a diary entry of your feelings on this topic. (Word limit: 100-150 words)
3. Today you heard a story from your teacher in the class about a fox and a goat. You were impressed by the story. Write a diary entry of the day's event. (Word limit: 100-150 words)
4. Today you had been to the cricket stadium to see a match. Write about your experience in the form of a diary entry. (Word limit: 100-150 words)
5. Imagine you are going to USA on your vacations. This is your first trip on an aeroplane. Write about your feelings in the form of a diary entry. (Word limit: 100-150 words)
6. You witnessed a puppy being run over by a speeding vehicle. You tried your best to save the dog's life, but couldn't. Write a diary entry in about 100-150 words expressing your reactions to the accident and your feelings. 8
7. You are Varun/Varsha. You visited a flower show competition at the Rose Garden. You were impressed by the exhibits. Write a diary entry in about 100-150 words recording your feelings and experiences. 8
8. You saw an old man planting a sapling and his grandchild watering it. Their silent dedication had a deep message for you. Record your feelings and thoughts in the form of a diary entry in about 100-120 words. (Word limit: 100-150) 8