

DIARY ENTRY WRITING

Past-paper questions and model answers

This teaching handout compiles the Pearson Level 1 writing tasks supplied by the user. Model answers are original teaching examples, not official Pearson responses. Where fewer than five genuine questions were available, clearly labelled Pearson-style practice tasks have been added.

How to use this handout

Read each exam-style task first and plan your own answer. Then compare your work with the model response. Notice the format, paragraphing, tone, detail and how every bullet point is covered.

Exam reminder: Pearson Level 1 Writing assesses spelling, punctuation and grammar as well as how clearly and appropriately you communicate for purpose and audience.

Practice 1 - Pearson-style practice created for teaching

Source: Pearson Level 1 structured writing frame - favourite place

Information

You keep a diary. You recently visited a favourite place, such as a local park, tourist attraction or sports ground.

Writing Task

Write a diary entry about your favourite place.

In your writing, you should:

- describe your favourite place
- explain what makes it special

You should aim to write about 150 to 200 words.

(15 marks)

MODEL ANSWER

20 September 2026

Today I went back to Riverside Park, one of my favourite places in the town. The weather was cool but bright, and the trees were starting to change colour. I walked along the river first, then sat on a bench near the small café with a coffee.

What I love most about the park is how peaceful it feels even though it is close to the town centre. There are wide paths, a children's playground and plenty of open grass, but my favourite area is the quiet path beside the water. I often go there when I have had a busy week because walking for half an hour helps me clear my mind.

The park is also special because I have many family memories there. We used to bring the children for picnics when they were younger, and we still meet there sometimes in summer.

I came home feeling much more relaxed. I must make time to visit again before the weather becomes too cold.

Model answer word count: 169 words | **Target:** 150 to 200 words

Practice 2 - Pearson-style practice created for teaching

Source: Pearson-style practice - memorable day diary

Information

You recently completed something you had been working towards for a long time.

Writing Task

Write a diary entry about the day you achieved your goal.

In your writing, you should:

- describe what happened
- explain how you felt and why the day was important

You should aim to write about 150 to 200 words.

(15 marks)

MODEL ANSWER

18 September 2026

What a day! This morning I received an email telling me that I had passed my English assessment. I checked the message twice because I could hardly believe it at first. I have been studying for months, often after work when I was already tired, so seeing the word "Pass" felt amazing.

I immediately phoned my sister because she has listened to me complain about homework and worry about the exam. She was even more excited than I was! Later, I told my tutor and thanked her for all the extra practice she gave me.

The result means more than just getting a certificate. When I started the course, I was nervous about writing and avoided speaking in groups. Now I know that I can improve if I keep practising and ask for help when I need it.

Tonight I am going to celebrate with my family. I feel proud, relieved and ready to start working towards the next level.

Model answer word count: 163 words | **Target:** 150 to 200 words

Practice 3 - Pearson-style practice created for teaching

Source: Pearson-style practice - day out diary

Information

You spent a day visiting a new town with a friend.

Writing Task

Write a diary entry about your day out.

In your writing, you should:

- describe what you did
- explain what you enjoyed or found difficult

You should aim to write about 150 to 200 words.

(15 marks)

MODEL ANSWER

12 September 2026

I spent today in Brighton with Maya, and my feet are exhausted! We caught an early train and reached the seafront before most of the shops had opened. The sky was grey at first, but the sun appeared by lunchtime.

We walked along the beach, explored the small shops and had fish and chips near the pier. My favourite part was sitting beside the sea with a hot drink because we could finally stop talking about work and simply relax. We also visited a small museum that I had never heard of before, and it was surprisingly interesting.

The only difficult part was the journey home. Our train was cancelled, so we had to wait almost an hour for the next one. The station was crowded and we were both tired by then.

Despite the delay, I had a brilliant day. It reminded me that a short trip can feel like a real break from normal routine. I definitely want to go back in summer.

Model answer word count: 168 words | **Target:** 150 to 200 words

Practice 4 - Pearson-style practice created for teaching

Source: Pearson-style practice - first day diary

Information

You have just completed your first day in a new job or course.

Writing Task

Write a diary entry about your first day.

In your writing, you should:

- describe what happened during the day
- explain how your feelings changed

You should aim to write about 150 to 200 words.

(15 marks)

MODEL ANSWER

7 September 2026

I survived my first day at the new office! I was so nervous this morning that I arrived twenty minutes early. At reception, I could not remember the name of the person I was supposed to ask for, but luckily the receptionist found my details.

My manager showed me around and introduced me to the team. Everyone seemed friendly, although I immediately forgot half their names. I spent most of the morning learning the computer system and reading information about the company. After lunch, I helped prepare some customer files and answered a few simple emails.

At first, I worried that I would make a mistake, but my colleague Sam told me nobody expects a new person to know everything. That made me relax. By the end of the day, I was tired but much more confident.

Tomorrow I need to ask more questions and write down people's names! I still have a lot to learn, but I think I am going to enjoy working there.

Model answer word count: 170 words | **Target:** 150 to 200 words

Practice 5 - Pearson-style practice created for teaching

Source: Pearson-style practice - family event diary

Information

Your family recently celebrated a special occasion.

Writing Task

Write a diary entry about the family celebration.

In your writing, you should:

- describe the event and who was there
- explain what made it memorable

You should aim to write about 150 to 200 words.

(15 marks)

MODEL ANSWER

30 August 2026

Today we celebrated my mum's sixtieth birthday, and the house has only just become quiet again. We planned a surprise lunch for her, so keeping everything secret for the last two weeks was difficult.

My brother brought her to my house at one o'clock, and everyone shouted "Surprise!" when she walked through the door. She looked completely shocked and then started laughing. Relatives came from different parts of the country, including my aunt who we had not seen for almost three years. We ate far too much food, looked at old family photos and listened to stories about Mum when she was young.

The best moment was when the grandchildren gave her a book they had made themselves. Each page had a drawing, photo or short message. Mum became emotional and said it was the best present she had received.

I am exhausted now, but very happy. It was not an expensive celebration, yet having everyone together made the day unforgettable.

Model answer word count: 166 words | **Target:** 150 to 200 words