

First, have a look at the 'How to write a Diary' steps. It will help you as you analyse the extract. See if you can spot the steps.

**Colloquial Language**  
You should try to use chatty/informal language.

**Follow a "Diary Style"**  
Start each entry with a date and "Dear Diary".

**First person**  
Remember to use personal pronouns (in particular: I/We)




**Chronological order**  
Your diary should be in time order, using adverbials.

**HOW TO WRITE A: DIARY**

**Self-reflection**  
Try to include your thoughts, feelings, opinions and hopes (inside speech marks).

**Past Tense**  
A diary is about what has already happened.

**Detailed descriptions**  
Remember to use more than one sense, to make your description more imaginable. Similes and metaphors can also be effective.



Keep scrolling to see the extract...

## Example of a diary extract

Can you pick out any features?

Dear Diary,

Having been to the most amazing sight on this planet, I am now lying on my bed (in a slightly smelly hostel) in total awe! Niagara Falls is so vast and powerful it makes me feel as insignificant as a speck of dust. Watching the huge quantity of water rush over the steep rocks, made me feel a little faint at first, due to the noise and sheer volume, but it was so magical. Almost like I was Harry Potter waving my wand, conducting nature's orchestra.

At one point, a rainbow arched in the bluest sky, like a streak of paint. When I stood on the viewing deck, freezing cold water sprayed over me, soaking me to my very skin! It was quite refreshing! Though I'm sure I shrieked like I'd seen a ghost.

I got there at about 9am, it was quite quiet, however by 10am, it was heaving! Lots of tourists arrived on buses to get a closer look at the majestic falls. I got chatting to one woman who had travelled from Norway. She was there as part of a tour across the whole of America. She was gob-smacked when I told her my plans for the next three months. She was so jealous when I showed her my photos from when I visited Mexico and the Mayan temples.

I'm a bit gutted that I didn't take the opportunity to go on a helicopter ride, but it was far too much money when I've got to budget for the rest of my trip. If only I'd have saved a little more cash!

In the morning I'm going to get up early, if I can, and explore the area more before I head west. If I do, I should really go to bed as I'll need a good night's sleep. I hope the hostel stays quiet, actually I should put my ear plugs in, just in case! Night, night!