

## Diary Entry – Top Tips

1. Remember diary entries are written in the first person.
2. Diary entries are usually written at the end of the day, looking back on what has happened, so it needs to be in the past tense and should be reflective (thoughtful).
3. You may want to start with a general statement about what the day has been like e.g. *Today was another difficult day on the trail.* And then explain what has happened during the day.
4. Remember – diaries normally tell events in a chronological order and include personal emotions and feelings. The Colonel will be worried about what is happening to the pioneers as he is responsible for the big decisions which could be a matter of life or death for them. He might also be worried about Annie and Sean.
5. In your planning - you could use 'thought bubbles' (like speech bubbles) to express what the Colonel may be thinking and then convert those into the Colonel's thoughts in his diary entry.
6. Remember, it is the Colonel writing so it will be written very much from his perspective. He is obviously not entirely happy with French Charlie's character but knows that they need his experience to help them navigate the trail.
7. You need to have some sort of interaction or conversation between French Charlie and the Colonel. You could use the conversation about not drinking alcohol or you could come up with something of your own.
8. Try to get as much of the research you did on a typical day on the trail into the entry as well.
9. This is a tough task but you all have the skills now to write a really convincing entry.

10. You could draft your own success criteria as you go along – remember to describe setting and bits of detail will engage your reader.

*Good Luck!!*