**Unit 2 - Writing a journal entry**

1. **Why do we write a journal?**
2. Why does someone keep a journal (diary)? Who is it for?
3. Have you ever kept a journal? What did/would you write about?
4. **Useful tips: Match each of the tips (1-6) with an explanation (a-f).**
5. Write the date at the top of your entry.
6. Include the location and time to provide context for what was happening.
7. Start with an opening like “Dear Diary” or “Dear Self” if you prefer.
8. Use “I” to write your journal in the first person.
9. Incorporate details that appeal to your five senses to make your post vivid.
10. Express yourself!
11. Let your thoughts flow freely onto the paper. You can go back and correct mistakes after you finish writing your journal entry.
12. For instance, you might write “Good Beans Coffee House,” “Paris,” or “My bedroom” for your location. For the time, you could write the actual time, such as “12:25 p.m.,” or the time of day, like “Early morning.”
13. For instance, you might write, “July 24, 2019,” “07-24-19,” or “24 July 2019.” Including the date helps you keep track of when you wrote an entry.
14. Using a salutation is totally optional, so feel free to skip it.
15. You’re writing about your thoughts, experiences, and reflections, so don’t worry about putting them in third person.
16. Think about what you saw, heard, smelled, felt, and tasted during the events or experiences that you’re writing about: it can make your journal entries more interesting and can help you remember what happened. For instance, if you’re on vacation at the beach, you might include details like, “sea spray hitting my face,” “the smell of burning wood from bonfires on the beach” or “the taste of salt on my lips”.

Source used: <https://www.wikihow.com/Write-a-Journal-Entry>

1. **Analysing a model**
   * 1. Read the following journal entry. Which of the tips mentioned above have been used? Give examples.
     2. What kind of language does the writer use?
     3. What tenses are used?

*November 12, 1997*

*Today is the second day of my trek around Mount Annapurna. I’m exhausted and my legs are shaking; I just hope I’ll be able to complete the trek. My feet are really killing me and my toes are bleeding, but I still want to continue.*

*Nepal is a fascinating country, but I have a great deal to learn. Everything is so different, and I’m trying to adapt to the new way of life here. I’m learning a little bit of the language to make communication easier; unfortunately, I don't learn foreign languages quickly. Although I don't understand much yet, I believe that I’m gradually improving.*

*I’m currently travelling with Liam, a student from Leeds University in England. He is a nice guy, but impatient. He is always walking ahead of me and complaining that I am too slow. I’m doing my best to keep up with him, but he is younger and stronger than I am. Maybe, I’m just feeling sorry for myself because I am getting old.*

*Right now, Liam is sitting with the owner of the inn. They are discussing the differences between life in England and life in Nepal. I don't know the real name of the owner, but everybody just calls him Tam. Tam speaks English very well and he’s trying to teach Liam some words in Nepali. Every time Tam says a new word, Liam tries to repeat it. Unfortunately, Liam also seems to have difficulty learning foreign languages. I just hope we don't get lost and have to ask for directions.*

1. **Expand your vocabulary: Extreme adjectives**
2. **Complete the following table with the following adjectives.**

freezing exhausted hilarious huge starving hopeless disgusting dirty good tiny bad ugly boiling happy miserable gorgeous tasty clean brilliant wet crowded terrified

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Regular** | **Extreme** | **Regular** | **Extreme** |
| small |  |  | delicious |
| big |  | unpleasant |  |
|  | awful, terrible, horrible |  | spotless |
|  | terrific, fantastic, brilliant |  | filthy |
| cold |  | clever |  |
| hot |  | tired |  |
|  | thrilled |  | soaked |
| sad |  | funny |  |
| pretty |  |  | packed |
|  | hideous | hungry |  |
| afraid |  |  | desperate |

1. **Use extreme adjectives from the table in 4a to complete the sentences.**
   * + 1. I’ve been doing housework all morning! I’m \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_!
       2. The bus was \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ with people, so I decided to wait for the next one.
       3. What’s for dinner? I’m \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_!
       4. She sounded \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ about the baby, on the phone.
       5. I was \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ to get away from there!
       6. She looked up to find a \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ face staring at her.
       7. Wash your hands – they’re \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_!
       8. The kids let themselves get \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ to the bone out in the rain.

**Your task:** Imagine you are a Syrian refugee trying to reach Europe with your family. You are in the middle of an adventurous and dangerous journey. Write a journal entry describing:

* Where you are at the moment and what the situation is like
* Your route so far
* What is happening around you right now, people’s hopes and feelings (including your own)

1. How many paragraphs are you going to write? What will the topic of each paragraph be?
2. Brainstorm ideas for each paragraph. Ask yourself questions, e.g. Where am I now? Who is with me? What’s the weather like? What’s the place like? etc.
3. Think of more questions for the following paragraphs to add details and make your description interesting to read.

**Tip**: Go through the BBC interactive application again to help you get ideas for your writing. Write down names of people and places to make your narrative more realistic.  
<https://www.bbc.com/news/world-middle-east-32057601>