

# What a wonderful day!

Y5

Diary Entry

Dear diary,

↖ addressed to author's diary

Oh, what a wonderful and exhilarating day I have just had! It has been everything that I was hoping for, and more to be completely honest. When we first arrived at the centre, after four long hours on the coach, we needed to gather in our groups for an important induction talk before heading off for our first activity.

I felt cautious, but mostly excited, for all the fun that lay ahead and what we would get to experience during our first time away from home. (I tried hard not to think about home as I didn't want to get homesick!)

My daytime activities consisted of the zip wire coupled up with the low ropes. We headed off with our quirky, effervescent leader - who was called Callie - and she was chatting endlessly about essential information, but mixed with some excellent and humorous stories. (I adored her - she was just so cool and wore the trendiest clothes!) Her hilarious stories relaxed our nerves as we trundled towards the zip wire. As soon as we were allowed, we raced up to the top of the platform, grabbed onto the rope and nervously stepped off the edge. We zoomed down the wire into the waiting woods. It was great fun and I especially enjoyed hearing my friend, who is called Kate, screech her head off as she glided down with her wellies



in the air! She is **famously accident-prone**, **so** I was just glad to see that she hadn't fallen or crashed!

informal language and phrases    comma before co-ordinating conjunction

use of hyphen    co-ordinating conjunction

**Soon after**, my **increasingly-confident group** headed for the low ropes, **which** were

recalling the day in chronological order    use of hyphen

relative pronoun

adverbial to show time    expanded noun phrase

not very low at all! As we walked towards the course, I **could** feel my heart race

modal verb

despite my rising **curiosity**. **Before** coming here, I always happily stayed in my

y5/6 spelling list

adverb of time

comfort zone, **but** I knew I needed to take a risk and challenge myself. Callie asked

comma before co-ordinating conjunction

for a volunteer to go first, **but** no one offered at first. **Finally**, Dan was the

comma before co-ordinating conjunction

adverb of time

courageous one to take the plunge and braved the course first. **After his bravery**,

adverb of time

we all felt inspired to embark on the challenge and were **determined** to be as brave

y5/6 spelling list

as him. At one point, **we had to swing across a gigantic, muddy gap with only a**

detailed description

**rope to hold on to**. **Occasionally**, I **would** look back at my friend, Mohamed, to see

detailed description

commas to demarcate extra detail

adverb of frequency

modal verb

that he was slightly unsure about it all. I just helped and encouraged him along

adverb of frequency

semi colon separates 2 independent clauses

the way as I **usually** do. I **didn't** want to admit to him **that** I felt just as nervous!

apostrophe for omission

building cohesion

**Eek!**

informal language

**Later on**, we all **had to get** ready for the quiz, **which** I was **visibly** most excited

adverb of time

tense choice

relative pronoun

-ibly ending

about, and **Mr Dawkin's** bingo game. My friends and I were **terribly** late though

apostrophe for possession

-ibly ending

dash introduction informal after thought

that's **certainly** not unusual! The night time activities were great; **however**, we just

adverb of possibility

semi-colon

conjunctive adverb

wanted to get back to our dorm and have our first sleepover. Kalima, **who is**

relative clause

usually a picture of **innocence**, had **brought** the biggest bag of sweets I had ever

-ence ending

-ought letter string

relative clause



seen. **She's** so lucky **as** my mum had **point blank refused** to let me put anything in my luggage. **Mean mum!**

subordinating conjunction  
apostrophe for omission  
informal language  
Humorous tone

Despite having such a busy day, we just **couldn't** settle down and get to sleep; **we**

subordinate clause  
semi colon separates 2 independent clauses  
apostrophe for omission

were just too thrilled to be here! The teachers weren't happy about it **(by 'it', I mean our nonsense, singing, laughing and dancing!)** though **whoops!** **I can hear Miss Tate coming now to tell us to be quiet, so I best put this diary away...** sssh!

commas in a list  
Extra personal detail in brackets (parenthesis)  
independent clauses  
present tense reacting to something happening now as they write  
co-ordinating conjunction  
dash introducing informal after thought  
talking directly to the reader/diary  
ellipsis adds a break/pause before writer directly addresses reader

She has already told us **(twice)** that **we must go to sleep!**

brackets for clarification  
modal verb  
end of the day - chronological order

**Write again tomorrow,**

Signing of at the end of the day's recount

**Dani**

Author's name - gives diary entry its authenticity