

## **Diary Writing - In the trenches in World War 1**

### **We are looking at**

Accuracy & Editing

Variety of sentence construction – subordination and coordination

Cohesion and coherence!

Expanded noun phrases, adverbials phrases, consistency in verb tense. Punctuation and spelling

Tone of writing

Greater Depth – change of tense to looking forwards to what might happen

Tuesday



Imagine that you are Harry Potter and you are writing a diary on the day you have had your first flying lesson.

**Remember to include**

- the date of the diary entry.
- what the weather is like
- the way you are feeling
- what you said to your team



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yTS1VlvIGRg>

**We are learning to** identify features of a Diary

Wednesday  
lesson 1

What diaries have you read?

What types of things might you  
include in a diary?

Working in a pair/three, stick the table below onto your A3 piece of paper.

Read through your diary extract/s carefully.

Fill in the table and then answer the questions on your sheet of paper.

<b><i>Diary Features</i></b>	
Person	
Formality	
Tense	
Content	
Punctuation	
Vocabulary choices	



Thursday 14th June 1942

Dear diary,

Well this has been the most scariest day of my life! Luckily, I'm still here to tell the tale and hopefully shall be from now on.

At about half past eight this morning life was going as normal: well as in we were all creeping around in our stocking feet so the workers below couldn't hear us. Then it happened. The clank of footsteps could be heard coming up the stairs. I knew they'd reached the third step from the top - it creaked like grandmother's knees. Immediately we all stopped, stood still and held our breath. Mother went white as a sheet and made that face at me- like don't you dare make a sound! As if I would be so silly. This was our hiding place, our only chance of not being caught, our one secret that must never be told.

It was as if time stood still (though after I'm sure it was no more than five minutes) like the air had been sucked out from all around me! Nothing, no movement, no sound. Just waiting to hear if the steps would descend back down the stairs. My heart was beating like a drum; my ears were pounding as they listened for any sound that would indicate we'd been found. I stood like a statue staring at my mother, who was doing the same, making no movement no sound. One minute, two minutes, three minutes, how many had passed? Still we stood, frozen to the spot.

9<sup>th</sup> April 1912

Dear diary,

It feels rather strange writing my feelings down, however my mother believes I have so much to say for an eleven-year-old girl, and seeing as I am about to embark on a once-in-a-lifetime journey, I must say I agree. Excited, delighted yet intrigued by what is about to happen in the days ahead, I cannot wait to scribble down my adventures within my diary. Staring at the grandfather clock, as if it would make the hands turn faster, I long for tomorrow to come. Within me, I can feel butterflies in my stomach, churning with excitement. Boarding the Titanic (the unsinkable ship) in the morning will be life changing. I can't wait to glance my eyes upon the gargantuan, almighty ship knowing that it will take me on my magnificent adventure which will change my life forever.

Diary Questions - answer on your sheets:

1. What are diaries written about?
2. Which person are diaries written in? Why?
3. What tense are diaries usually written in? Highlight an example (Green - what other tenses can you identify in your texts?)
4. Underline the emotions that have been included in the diary entry. Why are emotions included in a diary?
5. What type of language is used in a diary? (formal/informal?) Highlight an example.

## ***Diary Features***

<b>Person</b>	1 <sup>st</sup> person (I, We)
<b>Formality</b>	Informal Tone – like chatting to a friend
<b>Tense</b>	<b>Past tense: things that have already happened</b> Present tense: here I am lying and thinking... Future tense: I hope we can go again in the future
<b>Content</b>	Talk about experiences Emotions that are felt Opinions as well as facts Lots of description
<b>Punctuation</b>	! and ' because of informal tone () - , to add extra details
<b>Vocabulary choices</b>	Informal words – slang, contracted words I'm, we're Adjectives for description Adverbial phrases to add extra detail Emotive words

Wednesday

# Types of Sentences



# What is a simple sentence?

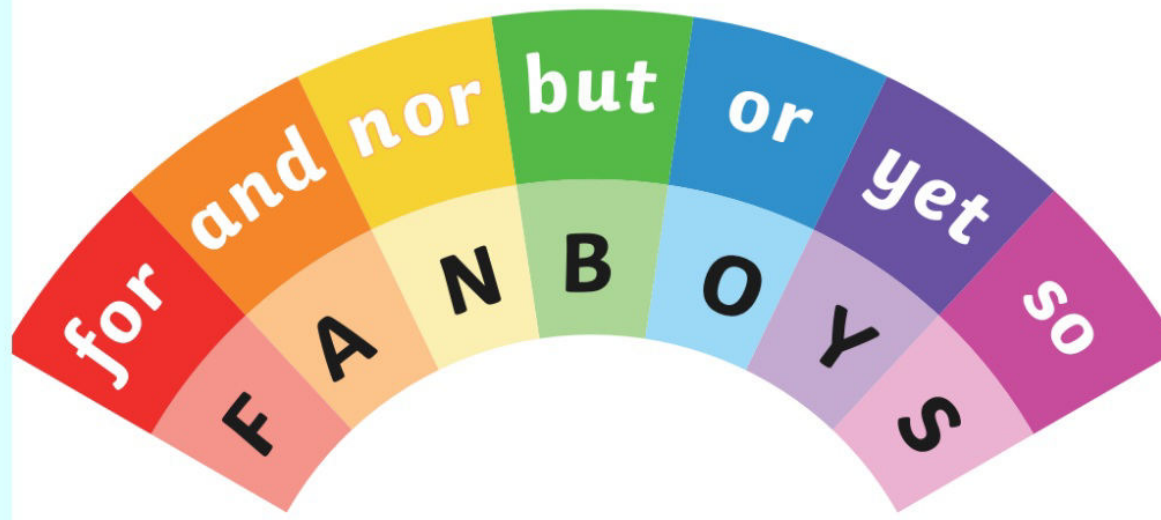
A **main clause** (or it could be called a **simple sentence**) is a group of words that expresses one complete thought. Every **main clause** must contain a **subject** and a **verb**. They can also be called **independent** clauses.

Can you think of a simple sentence?

What types of conjunctions are used  
in COMPOUND sentences?

### Co-ordinating Conjunctions

There are seven co-ordinating conjunctions.  
They give equal importance to the words or sentences they connect.





Dear Diary,

It has been a year since my last entry. I have been too exhausted to write as of late however I must tell you what we saw today. We started the day like every other (moving stone blocks to the edge of the quarry). I had always wondered where these enormous blocks were going and today we found that out for the first time!

Uno, the foreman, called out my name and I hesitantly followed him on a long walk away from the quarry. It felt strange to leave the place I had spent the last year, but my mind was full of curiosity and excitement. We followed the route of the blocks until we saw a triangular shadow on the horizon. As the sands cleared, I saw it – the Great Pyramid of Khufu. It seemed to climb all the way to the heavens like a stairway to the gods. There were thousands of workers pulling blocks up steep ramps, pushing them into place and using chisels to shape the pyramid. I will never forget today – it was the moment I realised that all the work I had completed over the last year had been worth it.

Can you identify any compound sentences?

There are 2 types of COMPLEX sentences:

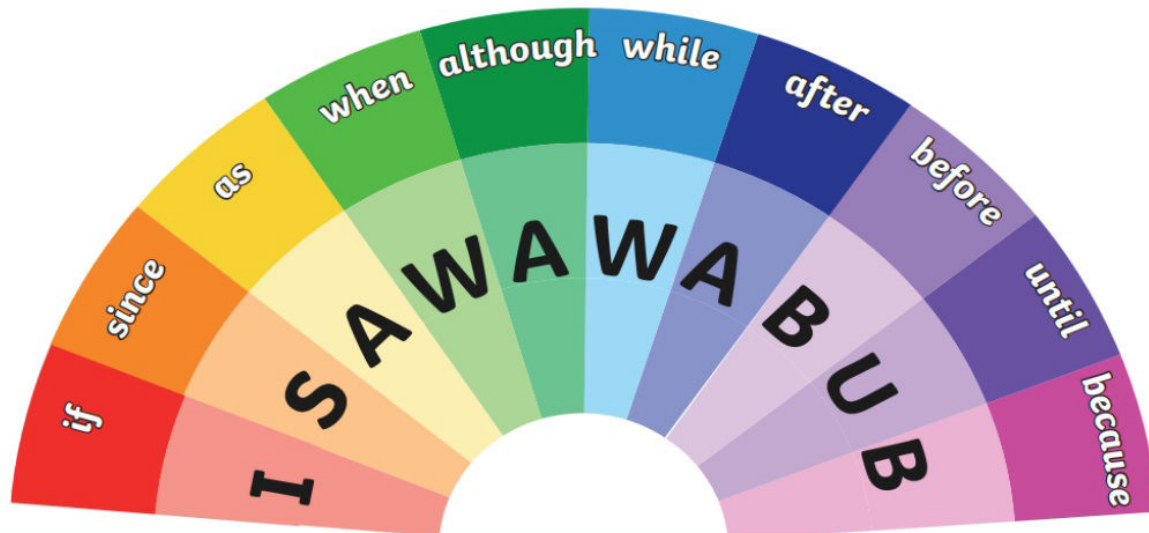
- Sentences with subordinating conjunctions
- Sentences with a relative clause



Can you name the common subordinating conjunctions used in COMPLEX sentences?

### Subordinating Conjunctions

Here are 10 of the most common subordinating conjunctions. They are used at the beginning of a subordinating clause which is a clause that doesn't make sense on its own.



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Can you identify any complex sentences?

Thursday

**Watch the clip about children in the World War 1.**

**What do we know about the how children lived and what they did at this time?**



<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/zqhyb9q/articles/z7gdpg8>

What could we include in our diary entry.

The diary  
of a child  
in WW1

Your task - Write a diary entry which tells the reader what the boy in the clip did during his day.

Remember YOU are the boy so use I in your writing.

Include feelings

Imagine you are telling someone about what happened. A diary is like having a chat with your friend

