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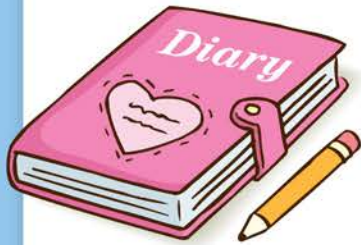
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Literary Texts: Diaries and Poetry

There is a wide variety of literary texts but they can be divided into two main types: narratives and poetry. Different literary texts have their own sets of characteristics but they all share common purposes: to tell stories and/or to entertain.

Diaries

A diary is a type of narrative. It is a record of a person's experiences, ideas, and thoughts. It often consists of diary entries written by the writer about the events of his or her day.



Unlike other narratives that mostly have the purpose of entertaining the reader, a diary is usually private because it contains the writer's personal opinions and feelings, and therefore is only meant to be read by the writer.

A diary has these characteristics:

- *entries organized in chronological order*
- *including dates of entry*
- *sometimes beginning with "Dear Diary"*
- *written in first-person narrative*
- *in prose; typically informal*
- *sometimes ending with the writer's signature*



Keep in Mind



Poetry

Poetry is a unique type of literary text. It uses imagery, sound, and rhymes to evoke emotions in readers.

A quatrain is a type of poetry. It is a poem or stanza of four lines that follow a rhyme scheme. The most common rhyme schemes are:

AABB, ABAB, and ABBA.



This poem follows the rhyme scheme: AABB.

An apple fell from a tree,
Down, down, it came to me.
I took a bite, it was delicious,
Oh apple, so juicy and nutritious!

An example of a diary:

date of entry

June 8, 2015

beginning with "Dear Diary"

Dear Diary,

first person

Today, I learned how to ride a horse! I love horses and asked Mom if I could take lessons. She said no because I was too young and horses can be dangerous. But finally, I am old enough! I am so excited for my lessons!

writer's signature

Hailey



- A. Read the diary entry. Cross out the mistakes and write the correct answers. Then answer the questions.

1.

Sarah

Dear Mom,

Today, Sarah was sent to her aunt's farm for vacation. I was so sad to leave all my friends but my mom promised that there would be lots of animals and fun activities. Now I'm excited to have so many adventures at the farm!

July 6, 2015

2

Who wrote the diary entry?

3. During which season was it written?

4. What is the diary entry about?

5. How does Sarah feel at the beginning? Why?

6. How does she feel at the end? Why?

7. Do you think that this is the first time Sarah has been to a farm? Why?

B. Read the diary entries. Put them in chronological order.

Dear Diary,

A

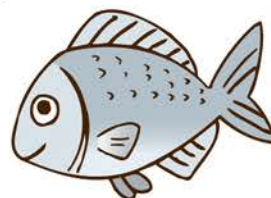
We had a picnic at the park today. It was so much fun. I ate fries and chicken wings and had ice cream for dessert. I'm a little sad that the weekend is over but I'm excited to see my friends tomorrow.

Eric

Dear Diary,

B

Dad took me fishing today! It was scary at first because we were in a small boat in a big lake but Dad made me feel safe. And I caught a big fish!



Dear Diary,

C

Yay, it's finally Friday! It's going to be fun at school because I have gym class. And then it is the weekend!

Eric

Eric



In chronological order:



C. Read the quatrains and identify the rhyme scheme for each. Write the schemes in the boxes.



Listen to the audio clips if you need help identifying the rhyme schemes.



Rhyme Schemes

AABB ABAB ABBA AAAA

1. Alice went to the yard
To look for the guard.
She looked around hard,
But could only find a card.

2. I love fairy tales, they're the best,
So many characters to know.
Mermaids and genies on a quest,
Princess sleeping white as snow.

3. Bernie the hungry bear
Wants his favourite honey.
Benny the little bunny
Brings his carrots to share.

4. I'm small but quick,
I have many a trick.
I move at night when no one sees
Because I love my cheese.

D. Read the poem. Answer the questions.

1. Colour the picture that the poem is about.

Ella

*Ella went to school,
She came in on a mule.
The children joked and laughed,
But she thought she looked cool.*

*They said her hair was a mess,
She had pompoms on her dress,
But Ella smiled wide,
She could not care less!*



2. What is the rhyme scheme for this poem? _____
3. What is the moral of the story? _____
4. How does the writer use imagery to evoke humour? _____
5. How does rhyme make this poem fun? _____