

Auggie's Diary- First Day Jitters



Your task is to write a diary from Auggie's point of view about his first experience of school.

Diaries are personal records of what has happened and how you felt about your day.

Let's think about some of the key events that happened in the chapters we have read and how these would have made August feel.

If you were Auggie, what key events would you write about?

What are his thoughts on:

- the walk to school;
- passing other kids in the street;
- Ms Petosa, the teacher;
- Charlotte, Jack and Julian and how they act;
- Henry;
- other kids in the class and where they sit/how they react;
- his day overall.

How did Auggie feel inside at these different points?



Diary writing checklist.

Make sure you include these features:

- Written in past tense
- Retell key events from the day
- First person (I, we, my)
- Informal language
- Includes writer's point of view, thoughts and feelings
- Includes opinions as well as facts
- Uses time connectives to link or move on events
- Uses reported speech (I overheard Julian saying... Ms Petosa told Henry to sit down...)



Here are some fantastic diary entry examples from 5F last year.

A rectangular area with a teal background containing the handwritten text "Dear Diary" in a dark blue, cursive script. The word "Dear" is on the top line, and "Diary" is on the bottom line, with a large, decorative flourish at the end of the word.

Dear Diary.

Today was my first ever day at school! It wasn't perfect, but it was alright. I am so angry because I really wish my face wasn't deformed. When I got to the gate, I started to panic but before I went in to school, Mum, Dad and Via all said really nice things which made me feel special. I quickly gave Mum a hug because I could see her about to cry and I really didn't want to be embarrassed.

No one looked at my face until I turned the corner of the school. I saw a couple of girls cup their hands and they were totally looking at me and whispering. However, they saw me look at them, then they looked away.

I went to room 301, which is on the 3rd floor. I knew where I was going and I was so glad I'd had a tour of the school. When I walked in to class everyone was laughing and talking to their friends, however I just walked to the back of the class where no one would see me. A couple of boys came in and a boy named Henry had to sit next to me – he was really moody and looked like a teenager!

When it was time for the lesson I was so nervous because I didn't want to be asked questions, so I just sat there quietly. My teacher's name was Ms Petosa – she seemed really nice. She smiled at me like she meant it – it wasn't a shiny smile like Mrs Garcia, it was a real smile.

Ms Petosa called everyone out to get the locks for their lockers. When she called my name I stood up and walked to the front. I could feel everyone staring at my back but when I turned around, everybody looked down.

I really thought I wouldn't make it through the day, but I did!

Dear Diary,

Today was my first day at school. I was so nervous that the butterflies in my tummy felt like pigeons flying around. I started getting scared and mum and dad were pretty nervous for me, but mostly excited. I was pleased that we were all going to walk to school together.

I was ok until we turned the corner. There were so many parents and children they were like a herd of wasps. I started shaking and Via tried to calm me down. It worked pretty well. Mum gave me a hug – I was embarrassed because it looked like she was going to cry. I gave her a quick hug back and ran in to school with my head down, so no one could see me.

I saw some girls whispering about me but I went straight to room 301. I looked at the seats – they were in a semi-circle but I went to the back and sat with my head down. Ms Petosa didn't see me at first but then she saw me and went still for a millionth of a second, but I didn't care, I was pretty used to that happening.

Kids kept sitting next to me, then moving away at the last second. I could tell other kids were talking about me. Jack waved at me and I waved back, but then Ms Petosa made Henry sit next to me. He dragged his bag over and plopped it on the desk so it was like a barrier to stop him looking at me. Julian was sat a few seats away talking to other kids but surprise, surprise he didn't speak to me.

Even though some kids have already been mean, I think school will be ok.

Your task is to write a diary entry from August's point of view, including key events from his first day at school.

You can refer back to the 2 chapters to help you find specific information to include in your diary.

Dear Diary,

Today was my first ever day at school...