

# Diary Entries

Short Writing Tasks  
Reading Comprehension  
Extended Composition

# Introduction

- ❖ Personal account through which we see an individual's view of the world.
- ❖ Suits students who enjoy characterisation and imaginative writing.

My dear John



The red hoop is now gone after a  
 long time, and it has now  
 become a green one, as it has  
 been for some time now. I am  
 very glad to hear that you  
 are well and hope you are  
 happy.

I am very glad to hear that  
 you are well and hope you are  
 happy. I am very glad to hear  
 that you are well and hope you  
 are happy. I am very glad to  
 hear that you are well and hope  
 you are happy. I am very glad  
 to hear that you are well and  
 hope you are happy. I am very  
 glad to hear that you are well  
 and hope you are happy. I am  
 very glad to hear that you are  
 well and hope you are happy.  
 Sept. 1911.  
 Love,  
 John

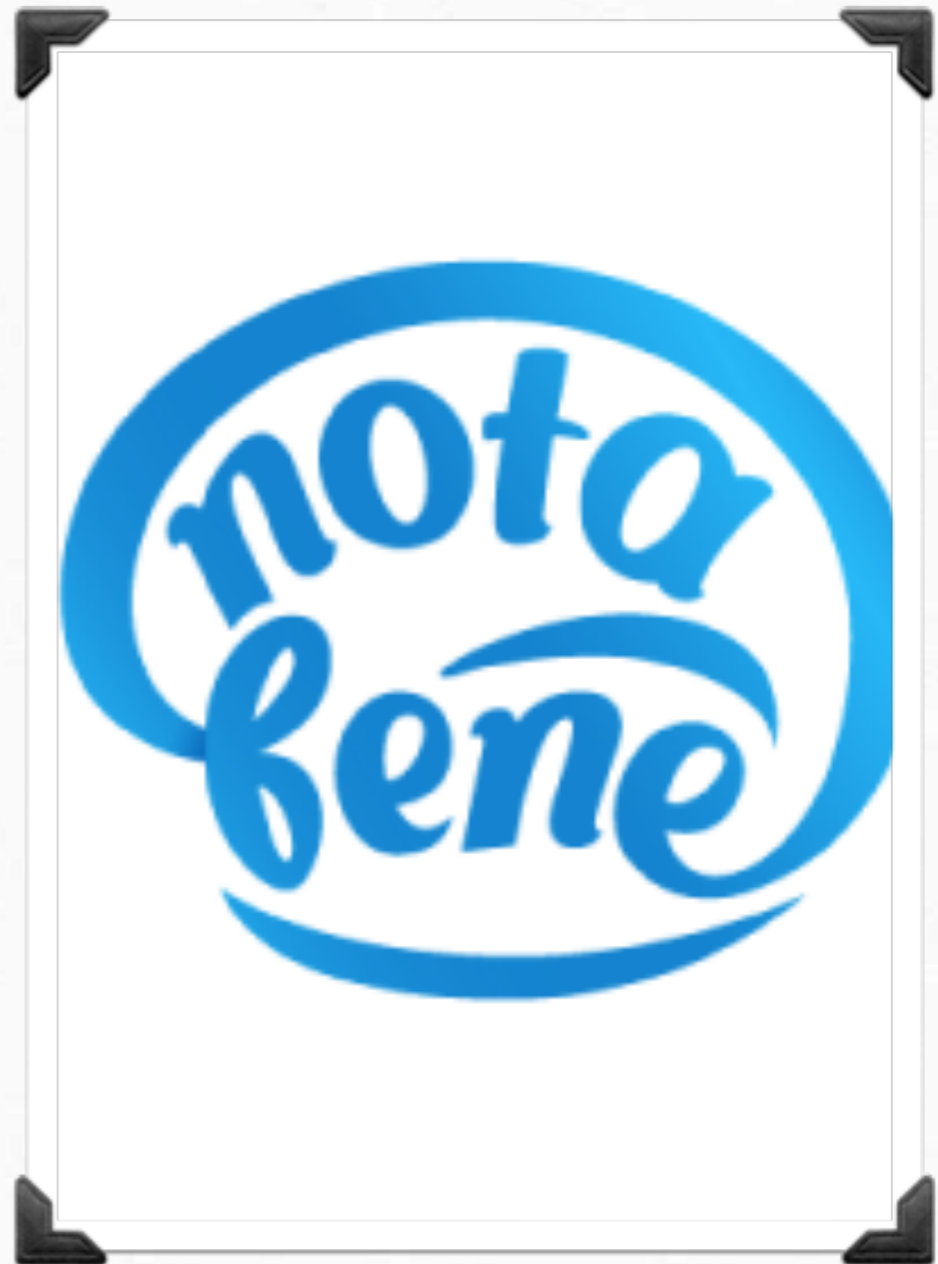
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# A diary entry can...

- ❖ Record events that have taken place
- ❖ Record travels (this is called a journal)
- ❖ Entertain readers (in newspapers)
- ❖ Give opinions
- ❖ Talk about secret thoughts, hopes, wishes

# Important!

- ❖ Although the general rule is to write in chronological order, if something amazing has happened, that should come first in your diary entry.



- ❖ If you won the Lotto, the Big Match or witnessed the murder of a close friend, for example, you would not begin by saying: 'Another frosty morning. It took me ages to scrape the ice from the windscreen. I hope they grit the roads soon because the forecast is for worse weather in the coming days and I'm quite nervous driving on ice...'

# Register

- ❖ Look at the date. If the diary is meant to have been written in the early 1900s, for example, the language will be formal and no modern slang will be used, nor will there be references to modern events, technology etc.

# Journal

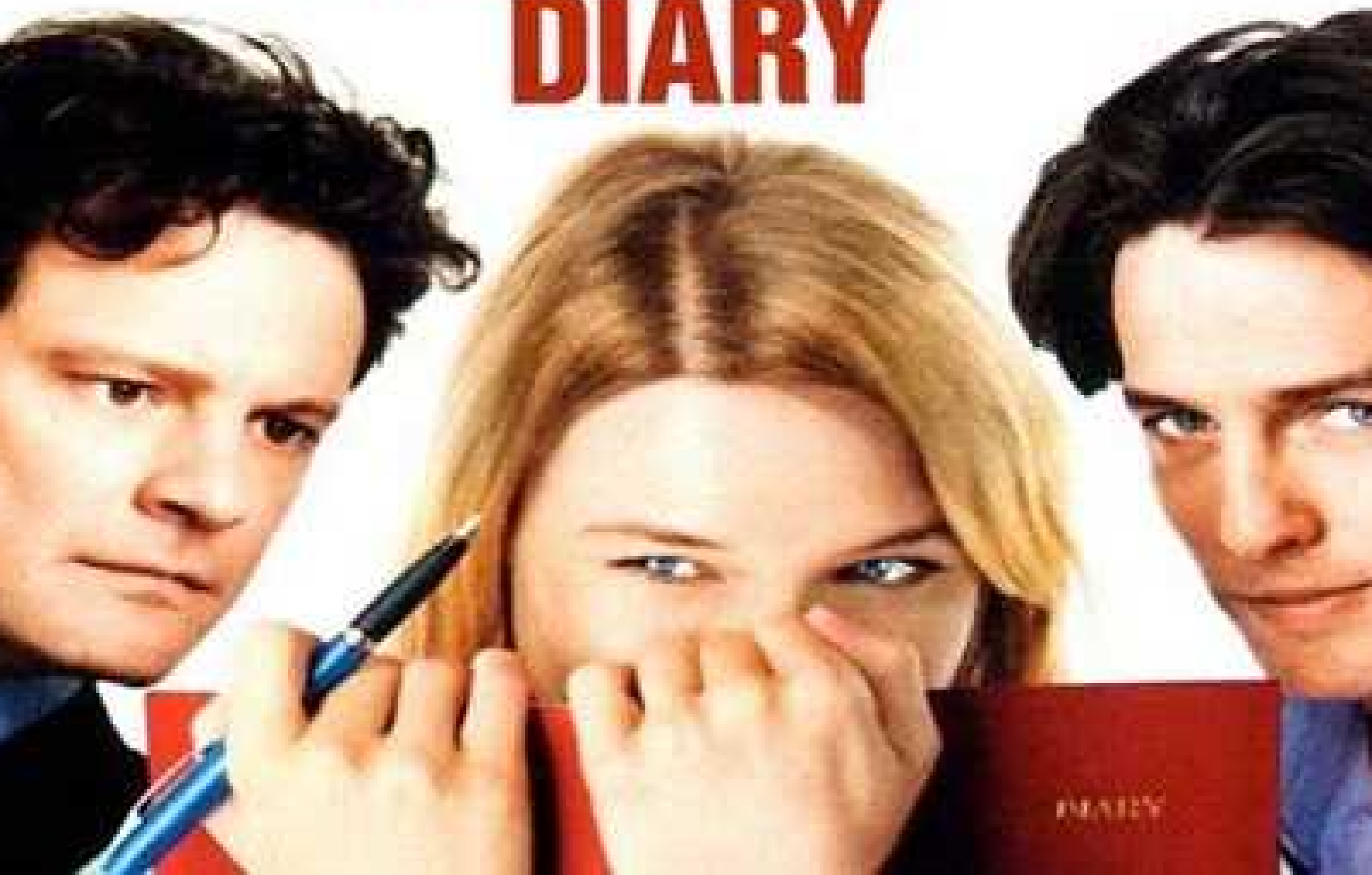
## Newspapers



- ❖ Written in the first person, which makes it engaging: we relate to the writer.
- ❖ Anecdotes add human interest
- ❖ Won't be as personal as a diary intended for private use only
- ❖ Usually informative about travel, sport etc. This makes it interesting

- ❖ In a journal, the writer may address the readers from time to time, although the focus will mainly be on his or her own experiences and reflections on these experiences.
- ❖ Journals can be amusing, which engages the readers. The tone in this case can be light-hearted and chatty.

# BRIDGET JONES'S DIARY



- ❖ A personal diary can be written in informal, chatty, relaxed language.
- ❖ Remember, however, to avoid text speak, bad language or any offensive references.

# Tone

- ❖ Depends on the task.
- ❖ Can be humorous, nostalgic, irritated...
- ❖ Should not be a dry chronicle of events

The Secret  
DIARY  
of  
ADRIAN MOLE  
aged  $13\frac{3}{4}$

SUE TOWNSEND



# Structure

- ❖ Chronological order, but remember to mention most important item first!
- ❖ Reflect on each event you discuss (this is very important)
- ❖ Give the date and start by saying 'Dear Diary'.
- ❖ No need to sign off. This is not a letter.