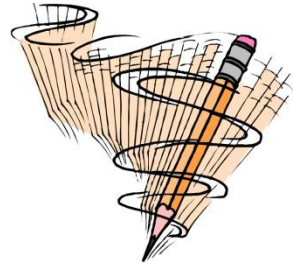


**Write On!**  
**A Day in My Life**



**Writing Warm Up**

Spend at least five minutes writing about the topic below. Do not worry about spelling or grammar.



**Could you live without TV? Why or why not?**

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## Writing in a Journal

Have you ever kept a **diary**? Many people think that it is an activity for teenage girls. They are wrong. It doesn't matter if you are a male or a female. It doesn't matter what age you are. Keeping a diary, also called a **journal**, is a good practice. It helps you remember important information such as the hours you worked on a specific day or the details of an event. You can also use a journal for personal thoughts, poetry, and story writing. There is no special way to keep a journal. It can be whatever you want it to be. In this lesson, you will learn how to keep a journal.

## Brainstorming: Coming Up with Ideas

Let's come up with some ideas for entries that you could write in a journal. Here are a few examples. Write your own ideas on the blank lines.

- the hours you work every day
- a poem
- a short story
- a list of new words you've learned
- your thoughts and dreams
- a list of places you have lived and when you were there
- a list of family members back home

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Write On! A Day in My Life

### Writing in *Your Journal*

When you write in your journal, it is a good idea to put the date at the beginning of each entry. You do not have to worry about grammar or spelling. You can keep lists. You can write sentences. You can add pictures. Keeping a journal can be fun. Let's look at a couple of sample entries.



*When Did that Happen?* in the **Reading on the Move** lesson series can also help you with writing a sequence of events.

Find it on the Internet at

[www.migrant.net/migrant/publications/index.htm](http://www.migrant.net/migrant/publications/index.htm)

### Sample Number One

May 25, 2013

I was busy at work today. I got there at 6:05. After I fed the animals, I cleaned the barn. Then we had to plow the south field and plant corn. I drove the tractor to the field. Raul came later and picked me up. Farmer White told us to leave the tractor there because he wanted to use it tomorrow in the next field over. I went home for lunch from noon to 2:00. When I went back to work I fixed the fence and the gate. I went to the store to buy screws and nuts. I did not get home until 7:00 tonight.

### Sample Number Two

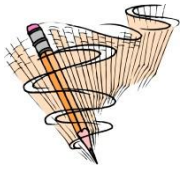
Sept. 14

Today I saw a very interesting plant on the edge of the field. I am not sure what kind it was. It was growing up the side of a tree like a vine. I also noticed that it was crawling along the ground. It was a pretty green and had three leaves. The first leaf was alone and the other two leaves were on each side. It also had white berries. I almost touched it, but a spider scared me away.



(Do you know what this plant is? Poison ivy – do not touch!)

Write On! A Day in My Life



### Your Turn

Write a journal entry based on the following story. Pretend you are either Roberto or Ana. Remember that you do not have to worry about spelling or grammar.

It was Tuesday, July 4th. Roberto's alarm went off at 6:00. He woke his sister, Ana. He took a shower, got dressed, ate breakfast, and went to the farm. He and Ana arrived at the farm by 7:00. Roberto milked the cows. Ana fed the calves. Roberto mowed the lawns. Ana weeded the flowers. Roberto replaced a wood step that was cracked. Ana stacked hay in the horse barn. Roberto cleaned the horse barn. Ana washed and brushed three horses. At noon, Roberto and Ana returned home for lunch. Because it was a holiday, they did not have to go back to work. They had a picnic with their family and went to the park to watch the fireworks at 11:00 that night.

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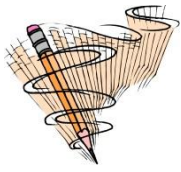
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**Remember:**

It doesn't matter if you write sentences or just a list. Include information that is important to you.

Good Job!

Write On! A Day in My Life



**Your Turn**

You don't have to use a journal just for work notes. You can also use it to record your thoughts or dreams. Finish the following sentence and then write for at least five minutes about the topic.

My perfect day would be...

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**Check it Out!**  
*Past, Present, or Future* in the **Reading on the Move** lesson series can also help you with writing in your journal.  
 Find it on the Internet at  
[www.migrant.net/migrant/publications/index.htm](http://www.migrant.net/migrant/publications/index.htm)





### Journal Writing Checklist

- I put the date on my entry.
- I did not worry about spelling or grammar.
- I can use my diary for anything I want.

### Writing Traits Scored in this Lesson

	<b>Great Job</b> 5 points	<b>Almost There</b> 3 points	<b>Keep Working</b> 1 point
<b>Ideas</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The message is clear.</li> <li>• It is interesting to read.</li> <li>• There is enough information.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The message is clear.</li> <li>• Some parts are interesting to read.</li> <li>• More information is needed.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The message is not clear.</li> <li>• There is no solid information.</li> </ul>
<b>Voice</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• There is a consistent tone.</li> <li>• The audience wants to read more.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The tone is fairly consistent.</li> <li>• It could be made more interesting.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The tone is unclear and inconsistent.</li> <li>• The piece is not interesting to read.</li> </ul>

### Words to Know

**diary:** a personal record of thoughts and experiences

**journal:** a personal record of thoughts and experiences

(Note: Both of these terms have *root words* that mean *day* in another language – *día* in Spanish, and *jour* in French. It is good to get in the habit of writing in your journal or diary every day, or at least on a regular basis.)

