

**Student Exemplar: 1.3 Diary Entry**

Dear Diary,

When I was thirteen years old, my parents divorced, and I had to show a lot of inner courage. This was super hard on me and on my three siblings. Our lives got changed around a lot when that happened. My dad moved to a new place and we stayed on the farm. I cried a lot at first, but then I realized that crying didn't make things any better. Both my parents kept telling us kids how much they loved us, and slowly things got better. I hated going to school those first few months and I thought everyone was always talking about our family. I even felt like the teachers were treating me too nice. My marks went down for a while and they didn't even say anything.

Then I met a new friend whose parents had been split up for a long time, and she helped me move on. She said she used to be really sad to, but after time both of her parents met new partners and they started getting along better. They let her have time with both parents and she says she actually ends up having a lot of fun with both and now she says it's even kind of cool having two houses to go to. I am not there yet, and my parents are still arguing lots, but she says there is hope.

I try to be strong for my siblings and even though I still get sad about things, I don't let them see it because if one of us gets sad it seems we make us all sad then mom gets really sad too. I don't think they have to do what is right for themselves, but it sure hasn't been easy. I think we are all getting better about it day by day and my friend says eventually it will feel normal again, so I am hopeful. We still get to see dad lots so that is good. I think kids of divorced parents have to show a lot of courage, and I am sure trying.

~ Amy

1.3 Diary Entry Rubric		
Value	Thought and Understanding	Presentation
<b>E</b> <b>Excellent</b>	<p>You have provided a significant personal experience expressing self courage.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Your thoughts on the assignment are perceptive</li> <li>You have many details that are developed and support your ideas well</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>This writing demonstrates <b>confident control</b> of sentence construction and variation, with correct word usage, grammar, and mechanics</li> <li>Word choice and stylistic choice provide strong voice</li> <li>Proper paragraph format use is demonstrated throughout writing</li> </ul>
<b>P</b> <b>Proficient</b>	<p>You have provided a <b>relevant</b> personal experience expressing self courage.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Your thoughts on the assignment are relevant</li> <li>You have details that are developed and support your ideas</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>This writing demonstrates competent control of sentence construction and variation, with mostly correct word usage, grammar, and mechanics</li> <li>Word choice and stylistic choice provide identifiable voice</li> <li>Proper paragraph format use is demonstrated for most writing</li> </ul>
<b>S</b> <b>Satisfactory</b>	<p>You have provided a <b>satisfactory</b> personal experience expressing self courage.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Your thoughts on the assignment are appropriate, but at times they may not consider the assignment with enough depth</li> <li>You have provided details, but you may not have developed them adequately</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>This writing demonstrates <b>satisfactory control</b> of sentence construction and variation, with some correct word usage, grammar, and mechanics</li> <li>Word choice and stylistic choice provide some evidence of voice</li> <li>Proper paragraph format use is demonstrated for some writing</li> </ul>
<b>L</b> <b>Limited</b>	<p>You have <b>not provided a satisfactory</b> personal experience expressing self courage.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Your response lacks focus</li> <li>You have attempted to address the task, but you have not given any details to support your thoughts</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>This writing <b>does not demonstrate satisfactory control</b> of sentence construction and variation, and is lacking in one or all areas of correct word usage, grammar, and mechanics</li> <li>Word choice and stylistic choice do not provide voice</li> <li>Proper paragraph format use is not demonstrated</li> </ul>
<b>R</b> <b>Redo</b>	<p>Please contact your teacher to discuss an improvement plan for this work, as your response does not meet the assignment <b>requirements</b>.</p>	
<b>TOTAL: 14/15</b> <b>= 93%</b>	<b>10/10</b>	<b>4/5</b>
<b>Teacher Comments:</b> You have created a diary entry that tells of a significant change in your life that shows a lot of inner courage on your part! Your voice is strong. You have used the word "to" incorrectly when it should be "too." Mom and Dad should be capitalized when they are acting as proper nouns. You have introduced, developed, and concluded with your discussion topic, and this is great! Nice work on this!		