

A hand-drawn sketch of a notebook. The notebook is represented by a simple rectangular border. Two paper clips are attached to the top edge. A pencil is visible in the bottom right corner, partially inside the notebook. The text is centered on the page.

First Language English (IGCSE)

9th Grade

The style of a piece of writing is determined by its:



Aim – what is the purpose of the writing?



Voice – what kind of character is the speaker/persona?



Audience – what do we know about their age, interests and expectations?



Vocabulary – how formal is the situation, relationship or subject?



Tone – is the emotion and mood appropriate?



Sentence structure – should sentences be simple, compound or complex, or a mixture?

These are all aspects to consider when you are asked to write or to comment on a piece of writing.

Chronological order

*The order in which they occurred. (TEAMWORK)

1. Find all the dates and time references in the article.
2. List the events in chronological order.

Example: (Exercise 5) - 5MIN -> 5 Ps

Event	Time
The Jeanette crushed	1881
Last of the Jeanette crew dies	140 days later
Amundsen reaches the North Pole	1912
Scott dies near the South Pole	1912
The Karluk sets out from Canada	17 June 1913
The Karluk trapped in ice near the North Pole	Winter 1913
The Karluk crushed and abandoned	10 January 1914

Teamwork

1. Read the journal (Pg. 13) 5 min -> 5Ps
2. List the common characteristics of the style of writing used in journals.

1. Tense? --> Present/present perfect/past simple....
2. Register?
3. Vocabulary level?
4. Sentence length?
5. Sentence type?
6. Content?

Diary VS Journal

A diary

- is often a purely personal and private record
- Written in colloquial style or even in a note form,
- Often consisting of very short entries.

A Journal

- is likely to be a formal record of a journey or significant experience
- Sometimes intended for a wider audience and possibly for publication.
- Written in full sentences and with some consideration given to style.

Exercise 8 -> Writing Focus (Do on your own!)

- Imagine you are Captain Bob Bartlett in the passage in Section A.
- Write 3 journal entries, with dates, for the winter period of 1913-14, from the freezing of the sea to when you abandon ship.
- Use the time grid from Task A5 to help you.
- Do not simply retell the story –adapt the material
- Write about 300 words, in an appropriate style, and refer to the following:
 - Previous events and original goal of the expedition
 - Stefansson's character and behavior
 - The mood of the crew and their fears.
 - How the crew passed the time
 - What happened to the Karluk
 - The journey you are about to face
 - Your thought and feeling about the future.

INFORMAL WRITTEN ENGLISH

Informal letters, emails and blogs tend to contain:

- Contractions (e.g. can't, don't OK)
- Abbreviations (e.g. uni, probs)
- Phonetic spelling (e.g. hilites, kwik)
- Colloquial expressions (e.g. no way, bonkers)
- It is better to avoid slangs, jargon or non-sentences.