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| CATEGORY | 4 | 3 | 2 | 1 |
| Organization | The diary is very well organized. Each entry includes a date. One entry follows another in a logical sequence. | The diary is pretty well organized. Some entries include dates. One entry may seem out of place. | The diary is a little hard to follow. A few of the entries include dates. | Entries seem to be randomly arranged. None of the entries include dates. |
| Accuracy of Facts | All facts presented in the diary are accurate. | Almost all facts presented in the diary are accurate. | Most facts presented in the diary are accurate (at least 70%). | There are several factual errors in the diary. |
| Focus on Assigned Topic | The entire diary is related to the assigned topic and allows the reader to understand much more about the topic. | Most of the diary is related to the assigned topic. The diary wanders off at one point, but the reader can still learn something about the topic. | Some of the diary is related to the assigned topic, but a reader does not learn much about the topic. | No attempt has been made to relate the diaryto the assigned topic. |
| Writing Process | Student devotes a lot of time and effort to the writing process (prewriting, drafting, reviewing, and editing). Works hard to make the diary wonderful. | Student devotes sufficient time and effort to the writing process (prewriting, drafting, reviewing, and editing). Works and gets the job done. | Student devotes some time and effort to the writing process but was not very thorough. Does enough to get by. | Student devotes little time and effort to the writing process. Doesn't seem to care. |
| Creativity | The diary contains many creative details and/or descriptions that contribute to the reader's enjoyment. The author has really used his/her imagination. | The diary contains a few creative details and/or descriptions that contribute to the reader's enjoyment. The author has used his/her imagination. | The diary contains a few creative details and/or descriptions, but they distract from the story. The author has tried to use his/her imagination. | There is little evidence of creativity in the story. The author does not seem to have used much imagination. |
| Requirements | The diary includes 10 entries. Each entry is 2-3 paragraphs long. | Almost all (about 90%) the written requirements were met. | Most (about 75%) of the written requirements were met, but several were not. | Many requirements were not met. |