

The Elizabethan Poor

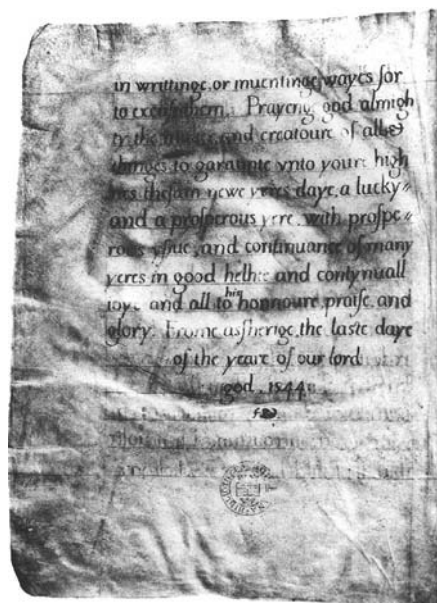
Elizabethan England faced a mounting economic problem as the poor became poorer, and a growing army of vagabonds and beggars roamed the streets and countryside.



The following quote was written about the situation in the nation's capital:

London was filthy but intriguing, lively but dangerous. And, in addition to its own poor, the city acted as a magnet for beggars, thieves and tricksters from across the country.

Your task is to use the following writing frame to write a diary for a visitor to London in Elizabethan times. Can you describe all of the horrors you have seen?



| PARTS | EXAMPLES | MY EXAMPLES |
|----------------|--|-------------|
| Introduction | <p>Have I written to the diary as if it is my most trusted friend? <i>Dear Diary I can only tell you this... No one else must know...</i></p> <p>Have I described the event as exciting without telling the reader what it actually is?</p> | |
| Event 1 | <p>Tell the reader about the first event that actually happened. Have I used a preposition? <i>Early this morning, just before eight I...</i></p> <p>Have I described my feelings?</p> <p>Have I described my point of view? Have I written about secrets?</p> | |
| Event 2 | <p>Tell the reader about the next event that actually happened. Have I used a preposition? <i>Later on, after I had..., I noticed...</i></p> <p>Have I described my feelings?</p> <p>Have I described my point of view? Have I written about secrets?</p> | |
| Event 3 | <p>Tell the reader about the final event that actually happened. Have I used a preposition? <i>Just a few moments ago, before I... I finally...</i></p> <p>Have I described my feelings?</p> <p>Have I described my point of view? Have I written about secrets?</p> | |
| Saying goodbye | <p>Tell the diary it is time for you to go. What are you going to be doing next? How have you felt about the days events? What would you do differently next time? When are you going to write next?</p> | |

As you are writing use the following checkpoints to help you:

| | Yes | No |
|--|-----|----|
| • Have I written to the diary as if it is my most trusted friend? | | |
| • Have I written in the first person? | | |
| • Have I told the reader about events that have already happened? | | |
| • Have I described my feelings? | | |
| • Have I described my thoughts? | | |
| • Have I demonstrated my point of view? | | |
| • Have I written about secrets? <i>Am I jealous, sad all of the way through the diary?</i> | | |
| • Have I used list sentences? <i>I felt scared, shaken and terrified.</i> | | |
| • Have I used simile sentences? | | |
| • Have I asked a rhetorical question? <i>What's up with people nowadays?</i> | | |

To find out more information about the poor go to:

www.historylearningsite.co.uk

Why not send email your finished accounts to the History associate on the BGFL? (stuart.busby@bgfl.org). If you do they may get read by pupils throughout the city!