Task 2.B

Silk Road Diary

**Standards:**

1. Student will be able to write diary entries from the point of view of someone traveling the Silk Road.
2. Student will be able to describe things that occurred on the Silk Road

**Task:**

We are able to study history because of artifacts that have been left behind, along with records that have been preserved over the ages.  One way that we can get a firsthand, or primary, view of historical events is through journal or diary entries from people who actually experienced the history that we study.  The Silk Road became an expressway of its time where goods, art, ideas, and culture were the cargo.

**Your task is to pretend that you are traveling the Silk Road and to create a diary with at least four (4) entries at different locations with different experiences that may have occurred on the Silk Road.**

**Required Elements:** Please be sure to include the following in your diary (check them off before you turn this in):

1. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Four entries from four different locations on the Silk Road (a **minimum** of a full paragraph each entry)
2. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ At least four different experiences that may have occurred on the Silk Road (Must be historically bound and specific).  Options include:
   1. Dangers faced
   2. Difficulties with terrain
   3. Types of people encountered
   4. New goods and ideas encountered
      1. Such as new religions, Chinese inventions, Muslim advancements, etc.
3. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Descriptive writing to bring your Silk Road “experience” to life

*This example would be 1 of the 4 entries.*

**Gladiator Example**

May 19,

Dear Diary,

It has been quite a long day for me here at the gladiator training facility.  I hate that the Romans have taken me from my family, and now I have to prepare to entertain them in the Colosseum.  I am angry that my life is simply a game to them.  Today, I worked on my sword handling skills.  It is a joke, honestly.  These fools give me a very light wooden sword to practice with, yet I have to perform with a real one!  It is like they yearn for us to fail.  I have splinters all over my hands, arms, and legs.  I can feel them weaseling their way deeper into my skin.  I suppose this is the least of my discomfort though.  I have not had a decent meal since I got here, and my stomach is growling so loud that I fear one of the lions has gotten loose.  I suppose it is not necessary for them to feed me well, as the likelihood is I will perish in the arena in just a few days. I must take my slumber now.

Silk Road Diary Rubric Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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| **Criteria** | **0-59** | **60-69** | **70-79** | **80-89** | **90-100** |
| **Historically Correct** | Few to none of the aspects of the diary entries could have happened on the Silk Road. Most or all of the events are not based on history. | Little of the aspects of the diary entries could have happened on the Silk Road.  Many of the events are not based on history. | Some of the aspects of the diary entries could have happened on the Silk Road.  It is clear that some of the events are based on history and some are not. | Most of the aspects of the diary entries could have happened on the Silk Road.  It is clear that most of the events are based on history. | All aspects of the diary entries could have happened on the Silk Road.  It is clear that the events are based on history. |
| **Descriptive Writing and sentence structure** | Descriptive writing is not used **and/or** sentence structure does not vary throughout. | Descriptive writing ineffectively used to bring writing to life with minimal variety in sentence structure. | Descriptive writing is used moderately well to bring writing to life with minimal variety in sentence structure. | Descriptive writing is used effectively to bring writing to life with minimal variety in sentence structure. | Descriptive writing is effectively used to bring writing to life with a variety of sentence structures. |
| **Required Elements** | None of the required elements are included in any of the diary entries. | All required elements are included in **1** of the diary entries. | All required elements are included in **2** of the diary entries.  **OR**  **1** of the required elements is included in all of the diary entries. | All required elements are included in **3** of the diary entries.  **OR**  **2** of the required elements are included in all of the diary entries. | All required elements are included in **all** of the diary entries. |
| **Final Draft Quality** | Diary entries are not done in final draft quality; written in pencil, pen, or typed with many apparent mistakes, and difficult to read. | Diary entries are not done in final draft quality; written in pencil, pen, or typed with many apparent mistakes, but moderately easy to read. | Diary entries are done in final draft quality; either written neatly in pen, or typed with some apparent mistakes, and moderately easy to read. | Diary entries are done in final draft quality; either written neatly in pen, or typed with few apparent mistakes, and easy to read. | Diary entries are done in final draft quality; either written neatly in pen, or typed with no apparent mistakes, and easy to read. |

**2% point Bonus for above and beyond creativity and effort.**

**Teacher Comments: 10% grade reduction if late. 5% grade reduction if this rubric is not turned in with assignment.**

Total Points**:                       /400**