Imagine you are Beatrice in Act 1, Scene 1 and have just met with Benedick. Write the diary entry you would make later that evening.

This might seem a little tricky but don’t panic! Try this practice exercise...

Read the following example then underline the point, evidence and explanation.

Benedick turned up with the soldiers today, worse luck. He is really annoying. He hasn't improved at all and still talks nonsense constantly. I couldn’t help but argue with him. When I saw him I said ‘I wonder that you will still be talking, Signior Benedick; nobody marks you,’ making quite clear my point that I don't know why he bothers opening his mouth.

Although slightly disguised in the diary entry, it is still the same basic PEE structure.

Your turn!

Here are three easy steps to help you write your diary entry.

1. Read lines 23-118 of the scene again. Think about Beatrice’s opinion of Benedick before their meeting. Then have a look at the exchange between the two and highlight six really vivid quotations from the scene that show Beatrice’s feelings towards Benedick, and his towards her.

2. Write a diary entry around your quotations using the PEE structure. Remember to write in the first person, use lots of adjectives and write honestly.

3. Proofread your work carefully. Check you have used a range of vocabulary, as well as different sentence types (complex, compound and simple) and that your writing is organised into paragraphs.

Now try your own diary style paragraph using the following quotation:

‘I had rather hear my dog bark at a crow than a man swear he loves me.’

Remember, you can split this up so that it fits naturally into your diary style. Now use the six quotations you found to write the rest of the entry.