**A Day in the Life of**…. Due Date:

Name: Advisory:

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| AUSTRALIAN CURRICULUM CONTENT DESCRIPTORS |
| **English** |
| Experiment with the ways that language features, image and sound can be adapted in literary texts, for example the effects of stereotypical characters and settings, the playfulness of humour and pun and the use of hyperlink (ACELT1638)  |
| Understand that authors innovate with text structures and language for specific purposes and effects (ACELA1553)  |
| Understand that roles and relationships are developed and challenged through language and interpersonal skills (ACELA1551)  |

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| **Achievement Standards for Year 9 English** |
| Students demonstrate how manipulating language features and images can create innovative texts. |
| Students create texts that respond to issues, interpreting and integrating ideas from other texts |
| Students edit for effect, selecting vocabulary and grammar that contribute to the precision and persuasiveness of texts and using accurate spelling and punctuation.  |

**General Capabilities**

* Literacy
* Creative and Critical Thinking
* ICT

**Task**

Research what life was like on the Ballarat Goldfields for one of the following people:

* Chinese Migrant
* Aboriginal Miner
* Goldfield Official
* Bushranger
* Trooper /Police Officer
* Child
* Miner (Digger)
* Miner’s family members
* Shop Keeper

Keep notes of information remembering to include references (For a website this includes author, title, date accessed and website address).

You then need to describe a day in the life of that person using one of the following techniques:

* A series of diary entries;
* A letter home to a family member
* A Goldfields Newspaper Article **-** (Factual account of a recent dramatic happening)

You may include illustrations, maps or diagrams.

**Features of Text Types (see over the page for examples)**

**Diary Entry**

* Written in first person
* Informal language
* Orientation
* Figurative language including senses to add detail (sight, smell, touch, taste, sound)

**Letter Home**

* Written in first person
* Informal language
* Incorporation of salutations
* Paragraphs
* Use of figurative language including senses to add detail (sight, smell, touch, taste, sound)

**Newspaper Article (Factual account of a recent dramatic happening)**

* Structure
	+ **Headline**: immediate focus on the subject of the report
	+ **Byline**: the reporter is named
	+ **The Lead**: a short paragraph explaining what, where and when in relation to the news event.
	+ **Important detail**: comment by a witness or an observer
	+ **Consequence**s: further developments arising from the event
	+ **Text**: written in columns and in short paragraphs.
	+ **Paragraphing**: items in the report arranged in paragraphs in order of importance like an upside down triangle

**Length of Task: 500 words**

**Example of Diary Entry**

Following is a series of diary entries by a police trooper at the Ballarat Goldfields.

(http://www.australia.gov.au/about-australia/australian-story/eureka-stockade)

1st October 1854

They reckon there’s 25,000 miners (or diggers as they are commonly known) here in Ballarat. They’re from all parts of the country and the globe; I’ve met men from America, all parts of Europe and many Chinese. Many don’t like the Chinese but I’ve found them to be honest and hardworking types and we are seldom bothered by any wrongdoing on their part.

10th October 1854

There’s been a lot of talk lately from the diggers about the unfairness of the miner’s license fees. Miners must pay £8.00 per year regardless of whether they find any gold or not. This is a real hardship for many of the men; their resources are stretched to breaking point just to get here not to mention kitting themselves out with supplies and provisions. Still, the law’s the law and it’s my job to make sure that rules are obeyed.

17th October 1854

All hell broke loose today. The day started peaceably enough, me and Sergeant Hollister were doing the rounds when we came across an angry mob of diggers outside of Bentley’s pub. They were demanding justice, seems a drunken Scottish digger was beaten by some of Bentley’s men and he died from the assault. We managed to break up the mob and send them on their way, but I don’t reckon this is the last we’ll hear of it.

18th October 1854

Sure enough, I was right. Bentley’s pub was burnt down last night. First light showed it a smoldering ruin. We’ve arrested 3 diggers and they are in custody in the lock up until we can get a magistrate up from Melbourne.

30th October 1854

I’ve barely had a chance to update this diary. Things are still mighty unsettled. Diggers are complaining constantly about corruption. There have been regular meetings around the town and my superiors are beginning to worry that all out anarchy could explode if we’re not careful. I can’t help but feel that the diggers have a point and it might be better if the Goldfield Commissioners looked at their complaints instead of ignoring them.

11th November 1854

Well, it’s happened. Today over 10,000 diggers met to demand the release of the 3 charged with arson on Bentley’s hotel. They’ve formed a group named the ‘Ballarat Reform League’, with John Humffray as its leader. The mood of the diggers is very determined.

29th November 1854

We were called to disperse a big group of diggers today. They were burning their miner’s licenses. The mood of defiance is growing daily. There’s talk of a flag based on the Southern Cross, the miners are becoming organized and militant now.

3oth November 1854

We have been trying to carry out the Gold Commissioner’s orders today. We were meant to be conducting a license hunt. It was a joke really because none could produce them, they’d burnt them and didn’t care who knew. But that was not the end of the day’s trials. A huge mob of diggers, under the lead of a troublemaker called Peter Lalor, marched to the Eureka diggings and built a stockade. There were at least 500 men inside and they flew their flag as a final act of defiance.

3rd December 1854

What a day it’s been. The 12th and the 40th Regiment along with our own police troop were ordered to storm the stockade and arrest the ringleaders.

In the ensuing fight 22 diggers and 5 troops were killed. Their leader, Peter Lalor, escaped. There was an uneasy quiet last night, with soldiers and our troopers patrolling all night.

6th December 1854

Martial law has been declared. But there will be further bloodshed if the 13 diggers on trial are found guilty.

February 1855

Good news, the diggers have been acquitted of all charges. The authorities have also set up a commission to look at the miner’s claims. The consensus is that the unfair license fees will be removed and that miners will have voting rights.

Peter Lalor has already put himself forward as a politician.

I’m hoping that now things will settle down for us all.

**Example of Letter to a wife from a miner**

Care of the Post Office,

Ballarat Gold fields,

Victoria.

5th May, 1855

My dearest Emily,

I am trusting that this letter finds you and our beloved little George well and in good spirits. For myself, I keep that wondrous photograph that we had taken in Sydney in my inside pocket, close to my heart.

Well, I haven’t yet made our fortune my dear, but my hopes are still high. I’ve registered a claim at a promising site and I’m there from daybreak to nightfall working.

Let me tell you a little about the nature of the work and you can tell George what his beloved Papa is doing for all our futures.

Firstly, I take up a spot near the bank where the creek is slower. I dip my pan in the sediment of the creek. Then it’s a matter of dipping the pan just under the water line and steadily, raising and lowering the pan, whilst all the while gently shaking and tilting the pan. This gives any gold flakes or even nuggets a chance to settle.

Next, this process continues till all that is left is the black, heavy sand grains of the creek and if luck is with me, the beautiful glint of gold.

All of us ‘panners’ have our own techniques when it comes to the shaking and tilting of the pans, but it all amounts to the same end purpose: to separate the grains of gold from all the rocks, sand and other rubbish of the creek bed.

The work is hard, standing in the wet creek all day and bending over puts a strain on my back; by day’s end I am stiff and sore and would like nothing better than a hot, steaming bath.

Nevertheless, I have had some small success and every day back at camp there are stories of big strikes. What keeps me going is the hope that I can accumulate enough gold to set us up in the grocery business in Sydney that we have talked of so often.

You mentioned in your last letter that your brother Amos has set off for Ballarat, fired up by my stories of finding gold. I have not yet seen him but everyday more and more men arrive. The men on these claims are from all parts: Chinese, English, Germans, Aboriginal, New Zealanders, around 25,000 and growing in number every day. Gold fever they call it and I guess that is what I have too.

My candle is all but out, so I must finish this and send it off in the morning, remember me to little George and tell him his Papa will be home soon. Keep your letters coming Emily, they help keep me strong of heart during trying times,

Your beloved husband,

Walter

**Example of News Article**

A goldfields newspaper article about bushrangers. Based on information from the following website:

<http://www.egold.net.au/biogs/EG180b.htm>

The Shire

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| Ballarat December 20th 1852 6 pence |

**Bushranger Menace**

**By James D. Lowe**

Notorious bushranger Frank McCallum (also known as Captain Melville) and his partner in crime, William Roberts, have indulged in a daring crime spree at a Ballarat sheep station and later on the Ballarat Road on December 15th.

Frank Dalby, station manager at King’s Downs, a 500 acre sheep station near Ballarat, recalls,”We were just sitting down to breakfast, me and the lads, when in burst these two rough villains, wild-eyed and menacing. They each had 3 pistols, 1 in each hand another stuffed into their breeches. They ordered us out of the kitchen and into the yard. They produced a length of rope and proceeded to tie us up good and proper to the railings of the stockyard.”

Dalby goes on to explain that the two brutes then went back inside and forced the women and girls into the pantry and wedged a plank of wood over the door. It is believed the men then sat down and ate a hearty breakfast of eggs, bacon, mutton and damper and several cups of sweet tea.

Three hours later when the blaggards finally left and the men managed to free themselves they discovered that the house had been thoroughly ransacked, with many valuables taken. The haul included: silver candleholders, a silver tea service, pewter plates, a saddle, cash and a quantity of alcohol.

Dolly Murchison, general domestic servant at King’s Downs, said tearfully, “We didn’t know what would happen, there were 8 of us in the pantry, it was awfully hot. We opened up some jars of peaches we’d preserved last year and drank the juice. We didn’t know if they’d burn the place down, or what had happened to the menfolk. We all let out a cheer when Frank freed us. I just hope they catch them before they can do anymore harm.”

Not content with this outrage, the pair later held up 2 diggers on the Ballarat Road.

Giles Potter and Mathew Grainger were set upon by the 2 brutes around sunset on the same day. “We were just deciding whether to set up camp for the night or press on for another 20 miles to Ballarat”, reported Grainger. “As we rounded a bend we were confronted by these 2 drunken scoundrels who demanded our money. We reluctantly gave them all we had, £33 in all.”

But this wasn’t the end of the affair. Inexplicably, McCallum and Roberts gave the men back £10 of their ill-gotten gains as a “Christmas gift”.

All involved are calling for the Government to do more to stamp out this sort of criminal activity.

A £100 reward for any information leading to the arrest of Frank McCallum and William Roberts is being offered by the Victorian Government.

Anyone caught harbouring these villainous criminals will be dealt with severely.

**Achievement Standards Rubric**

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|  | A | B | C | D | E |
| Manipulation of language features to create innovative texts | Language used is highly creative, successfully incorporating at least two techniques and is appropriate for the task chosen, | Language used is creative, successfully incorporating at least two techniques and is appropriate for the task chosen. | Language used demonstrates some creativity with the attempt to incorporate language techniques and is appropriate for the task. | Language used is mostly appropriate for the task and shows some attempt to use language techniques. | Language used is not suitable for the task. |
| Creation of texts that respond to issues, interpreting and integrating ideas from other texts | Highly detailed historically and culturally accurate representation of information in the appropriate chosen format. | Detailed historically and culturally accurate representation of information in the appropriate chosen format. | Historically and culturally accurate representation of information in appropriate chosen format. | Mostly historically and culturally accurate representation of information in the appropriate format. | Information included is culturally and or historically inappropriate/ inaccurate and/or format is incorrect. |
| Editing for effect, selecting vocabulary and grammar that contribute to the precision and persuasiveness of texts and using accurate spelling and punctuation. | Chosen vocabulary demonstrates creativity and is highly effective. Accurate spelling, grammar and punctuation. Flow of work is smooth. | Chosen vocabulary demonstrates some creativity and is effective. One or two errors with spelling/ grammar/ punctuation. Work flows smoothly. | Effective choice of vocabulary. Mostly accurate spelling, grammar and punctuation. Work mostly flows. | Choice of vocabulary is mostly appropriate. Some significant errors in spelling, grammar and/or punctuation. Work does not flow. | No evidence of editing. |
| References | Inclusion of at least three references from varying sources in the correct format.  | Inclusion of at least three references in the correct format. | Inclusion of at least two references in the appropriate format, | Inclusion of at least two references. | No references included. |

Grade:

Feedback: