

from THE DIARY OF SAMUEL PEPYS

COPY MASTER

Grammar and Style

USE APPROPRIATE LANGUAGE

Like most diarists, Samuel Pepys used his diary as a place to jot down the events of his life soon after they happened. In his diary, Pepys dispenses with formal language in favor of an informal, conversational style peppered with sentence **fragments** and charged with raw emotion. Here is an example:

Upon the quarter deck he [Charles II] fell into discourse of his escape from Worcester. Where it made me ready to weep to hear stories that he told of his difficulties that he had passed through. (lines 11–13)

The sentence fragments give the passage a sense of spontaneity—as if Pepys were transcribing an image from his memory directly to the pages of his diary.

Directions: Rewrite the following paragraph about *Apollo 11*’s landing on the moon. Make sure to incorporate emotionally charged words and sentence fragments to convey the uplifting experience of this historic event.

On July 21, 1969, *Apollo 11* became the first manned space mission to successfully land on the Moon. The space shuttle launched from Kennedy Space Center, carrying astronauts Neil Armstrong, Edwin “Buzz” Aldrin, and Michael Collins into orbit. On June 20, Armstrong and Aldrin landed their small lunar module in the Sea of Tranquility. Armstrong then made his descent to the Moon’s surface and spoke the famous line, “That’s one small step for (a) man, one giant leap for mankind.” Over 600 million people watched the event on television. Armstrong and Aldrin marked their great achievement by planting an American flag in the soil. Before they returned to their shuttle, the astronauts installed a plaque that bore the signatures of each astronaut and President Richard Nixon, along with an inscription. The inscription read, “Here Men From Planet Earth First Set Foot Upon the Moon, July 1969 A.D. We Came in Peace For All Mankind.”