

# Living through the Civil War

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Your homework is to write a diary as though you are a black soldier or contraband (runaway slave) in 1863. It is to be done on A4 plain paper and decorated for display (It may be also be completed on a computer).

Below is an example of a diary that may help you. This must **NOT** be copied, but you can use the structure as a guide.

1 January 1863

Dear Diary,

*I have been travelling north for the last three weeks. It is exhausting, I am so fearful of being caught... but I do have the support of the underground railway – a secret route. I have been mainly travelling at night, about 10 miles a night - so that I can escape from the south. The night is my saviour – each night I get a little bit further away from my horrid master... The journey is harsh, but it is so worthwhile. The thought of being free is fantastic...*

3 January 1863

Dear Diary

*I have heard rumours that President Lincoln has made a declaration that all slaves are now free... I am so excited, this is such fantastic news...*

....

## Ideas that could be explored:

Journey	Fears	Experience of underground
Treatment by owner		Hopes
	<b>RUNAWAY SLAVE</b>	
Conditions of life		Feelings
	Brief comments about how they were made a slave	
A description of a battle		treatment in the regiment – Is it different to white soldiers?
Feelings on the war		Hopes for the future
	<b>SOLDIER</b>	
Fears for family		Description of fears for survival