Simone's Diary

3-3-33 / 3rd March 1933

Dear diary,

Today was a hot 42° day with sand storms lasting from 11am to 3pm. It's a real nuisance living in a deserted cattle station because you don't have any friends to talk to. I know I say this all the time but I wish I lived in a country where I can have friends to go visit every weekend or during the afternoons.

Today, Mother has been extremely quiet and quite nervous. I don't know why but something must be wrong. Maybe Father had a fight last night or half of the cattle are sick and we might not be able to afford mum's new dress we were getting for her for her Birthday. I don't know why I did but I will find out before long.

I was quite bored today as there was no clothes to iron or wash, neither any to fold. So instead I played my old out of tune Yamaha grand piano. I composed a new song which I called "Dusty old wagon". One day I hope to become a professional famous pianist but I doubt mum will let me as it is expensive to have lessons each
Grade Commentary

Terry has created an atmospheric short story opening using diary form. A strong sense of place and period has been communicated using appropriate language and effective description. There is some establishment of character and relationships between characters but the narrative voice could be stronger and there are some errors in spelling and expression.

Terry’s response demonstrates characteristics of work typically produced by a student performing at B standard at the end of Stage 4.