Native American Village writing assignment

Due Friday, February 24

To go with your village, you will be writing a journal entry from the viewpoint of a member of the tribe that lives in the village you built. In this journal entry you will describe the village in which you live. Your description should include the following information:

- The tribe you belong to. This will most likely be determined by the type of shelter you put in your village. Use the chart on page 91 of your book to help. It must be an Ohio Historic Native American tribe. (2 pts)
- A description of your home that includes the kind of home you have and how it was built. **This means how it would have been built by Native Americans in real life. You are not describing how you built your model.** Use your book to find information on this. (8 pts)
- Describe the crops in your field and the animals in your forest. Include who in your tribe would raise the crops and tend the fields and who would hunt the animals. Crops and animals should be actual crops and animals that tribe would grow and hunt. (7 pts)
- An explanation as to why your village is located near a river. Give several reasons why you need the river. (4 pts)
- Any other interesting information you want to share about your village and the tribe that lives there. (3 pts)
- Your sentences are clear and complete with proper grammar, punctuation and spelling (5 pts)

You can use your social studies book or any other resources to find the information you need to complete this journal. Journals should be around a page in length. **Remember you are pretending you are a Native American writing a journal entry about you and your village. This is not a report about Native Americans.** On the back there is an example of a journal entry written from a mound builders to give you an idea of what a journal entry looks like. Remember that yours will be from a Historic Native American’s perspective so you will talk about different things but the format is the same. You are basically writing about your life as a Native American. Journals can be typed or handwritten. **Please skip lines in your writing.**
When I got up this morning, I could smell that my mother had already begun to cook. It was our usual corn, beans, and squash. Luckily, father had managed to get a deer with his atlatl yesterday and we still had meat to eat because of that. It is always more filling than just the vegetables. We don’t always get the deer. Later I will go out to gather nuts from the forest. That will also add flavor.

I am also in charge of making sure there are no cracks in the walls of our home. I remember when we built it. We started with poles pushed into the ground and sticks tied to the poles for walls. Then we covered it with mud mixed with long grasses. The grass helps to hold the mud together. But we still get cracks so I often have to go get mud from the riverbank to fill them. The roof is made from bundles of grass laid lengthwise down the roof so rain will run down it. This makes a cozy house for the three families who live here.

Another job I have is to scare away the crows that fly into our fields. They don’t often go after the squash but they love the beans and corn. My mother is in charge of the field but we kids are the scarecrows.

As a member of the Hopewell, another thing we do is build mounds. I get to help do this every now and then. It takes a long time. Father says that his great grandfather worked on the mounds we are building now. They are very large, but when they are done, we will be able to use them to help tell the time of year we need to plant and harvest our crops.

I had better get going. I have a busy day ahead of me. My life is a lot of work but I have my family and village to help.