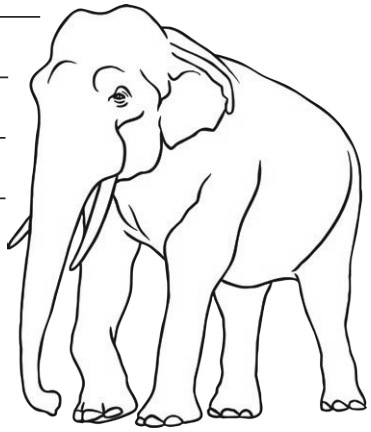
The Belfast Blitz

The Second World War Blitz hit Belfast in 1941. German bombers dropped explosives during the night, destroying whole streets and killing hundreds of people. The authorities were worried that if the Belfast Zoo was bombed, the animals would escape causing harm to themselves or citizens. In order to prevent that, the authorities decided to put many of the animals to sleep. A worker from the zoo called Denise Weston Austin decided to protect one animal in particular from the zoo by taking it home with her each night. Interestingly, the animal she took was an elephant called Sheila. Ms. Austin walked the elephant home each night where it stayed in her backyard. After some weeks, a dog spooked the elephant as she walked it home and the large animal ran rampant through the gardens of neighbours. The neighbours then complained and the elephant was returned to the zoo where it stayed until the 1960s, unharmed.

Write a diary entry describing a day in the life of Ms. Austin during the Blitz.