

Journal Entries, Quarter Two 2011

Directions: Write down **ALL QUOTES, POEMS** and the **authors' names** before writing a response.

Reminder, you must write at least a **five sentence** entry to get full credit. However, you can earn extra credit by writing in-depth, thoughtful entries, as well as having something valuable to look back at in your future.

Journal Entry #1: Imagine you are a pencil. What would you like to write about? What's the best and worst part about being a pencil? Be creative: use figurative language, five senses, strong verbs, BIG vocabulary words, etc.!

Journal Entry #2: *The rain to the wind said,
 "You push and I'll pelt."
 They so smote the garden bed
 That the flowers actually knelt,
 And lay lodged—though not dead.
 I know how the flowers felt. --Robert Frost*

Write about a time or times that you metaphorically empathized with the flowers.

Journal Entry #3: *"First impressions are often wrong."* – *The Bad Beginning (A Series of Unfortunate Events)*. Write about a time your first impression was wrong. Write an anecdote about this event.

Journal Entry #4: Write an extended metaphor or simile about yourself. See examples below:

(a): I have a heart like a field of roses. I can bloom when I'm happy at my peak but wither when I'm feeling down. When I'm angry or upset, thorns will be seen in me, but when I'm loved I'm as smooth as toothpaste. When I am watered with love I will always grow and grow.

(b): I am like a stone castle.
 My morals are high like the towers of the castle.
 I have a lasting influence on people.
 My character is sturdy like the stone walls.
 I have an aura of superiority.
 I have strength.
 I can withstand siege from outside forces.
 I am emotionally stable and not easily wavered.
 I stand firm in my beliefs.
I have a big life.
 Though strong and sturdy, an earthquake can drag me down to the ground if I get too haughty.
 My strength and sturdiness takes a long time to be rebuilt after a heavily scathing earthquake.

(c): My brain is the factory. My thoughts are packaged and shipped out to the world. They travel via the nerves of FedEx down the twisting roads of the arms. The thoughts pass the red rivers and white stone, until arriving at the isolated land of the fingers. However, when not destined for the fingers, my thoughts go by a different road. They take the expressway through the megalopolis just south of the

neck juncture; all the way until they arrive at the southern most point. While my thoughts are like FedEx, my food is semi trucks. They are slower moving, but a necessity nonetheless. I am an intricate working as complex as the grandest cities in the world, and am in fact larger. Everything from water to sewage and from electricity to products is within me. Cells are employees who are not paid, yet they work just as much. I am the city that never sleeps, for even when the blinds are pulled over my eyes, there is still work being done.

(d): I'm like a lobster. I have a tough shell, but when I am steamed and crack, that shell is sweet and tender but if you put a little hint of lemon on it I can be sour too. I have the tough shell because I'm rock solid and like to play hard to get. I have pinchers because if that lemon juice comes anywhere near me I will pinch your finger off.

Journal Entry #5: These glorious insults are from an era when cleverness with words was still valued, before a great portion of the English language got boiled down to 4-letter words. Write down your **favorite quote** and **clarify** what the quote means. Then **explain** how careful reading and listening can enrich your life. For **extra credit**, write your own "classy" insult.

In an exchange between Churchill & Lady Astor, she said, "If you were my husband I'd give you poison," and he replied, "If you were my wife, I'd drink it."

"He had delusions of adequacy." - Walter Kerr

"He has all the virtues I dislike and none of the vices I admire."- Winston Churchill "

"Thank you for sending me a copy of your book; I'll waste no time reading it." -Moses Hadas

"He can compress the most words into the smallest idea of any man I know. –Abraham Lincoln

"I didn't attend the funeral, but sent a nice letter saying I approved of it." - Mark Twain

"Why do you sit there **looking** like an envelope without any address on it?" - Mark Twain

"His mother should have thrown him away and kept the stork." - Mae West

Journal Entry #6: *Imagination was given to us to compensate for what we are not; a sense of humor was given to us to console us for what we are.* --Mark McGinnis

How does your imagination and sense of humor add to your quality of life?

Journal Entry #7: *If you are doing your best, you will not have time to worry about failure.*

-- Robert Hillyer

Do you agree or disagree with this advice? Support your answer.

Journal Entry #8: *Friendship is always a sweet responsibility, never an opportunity.* --Kahlil Gibran

How is friendship a "sweet" responsibility? Give examples of how this relates to your life.

Journal Entry #9: *The more you prepare, the luckier you appear.* --Terry Josephson

Do you believe this to be true? Why or why not? Include supporting examples.

Journal Entry #10: *Go out into the world today and love the people you meet. Let your presence light new light in the hearts of people.* - Mother Teresa

Do you believe the world could be changed if everyone shared this belief? How would our world be altered?

Journal Entry #11: Go on-line or look in one of my books and choose **three** quotes. After each quote, write down why you find this quote meaningful.

Journal Entry #12: *Insanity is doing the same things over and over again and expecting the different results.* --Albert Einstein

Einstein had one of the world's brightest minds. How does change improve your life?

Journal Entry #13: *Some folks are wise, some are otherwise.* --Tobies George Smollett

What is the difference between being smart and being wise? How does common sense play into this question? Give specific examples to support your answer.

Journal Entry #14: *Every actual state is corrupt. Good men must not obey the laws too well.*

--Ralph Waldo Emerson

State whether you agree or disagree and why. Do you think this has any validity in today's world?

Journal Entry #15: *It is difficult to know what a fish talks about, but you can be sure it is not about water.* Old joke

Okay, say you were a fish. What type would you be and what would you talk about?

Journal Entry #16: *Being the richest man in the cemetery doesn't matter to me ... Going to bed at night saying we've done something wonderful... that's what matters to me.*" [The Wall Street Journal, May 25, 1993

This is a rather haunting quote considering Steve Jobs (one of the most creative, innovative men of our century) recently died. Please comment on how doing or being wonderful makes you feel and why? Write an anecdote about a time that you are especially proud of for being so wonderful.