

Journal Entries - Fall, 2011

Quarter 1

Directions: Write down ALL QUOTES before answering except those noted with the word READ. Any words put in bold, write down the meaning on the same page.

Write on the first page of your journal:

Fill your paper with the breathings of your heart. -William Wordsworth

Journal Entry #1: READ the following riddle. Give your best answer and support why this is a tangible answer.

I am your constant companion.

I am your greatest asset or heaviest burden.

I will push you up to success or down to disappointment.

I am at your command.

Half the things you do might just as well be turned over to me,

For I can do them quickly, correctly, and profitably.

I am easily managed, just be firm with me.

Those who are great, I have made great.

Those who are failures, I have made failures.

I am not a machine, though I work with the precision of a machine and the intelligence of a person.

You can run me for profit, or you can run me for ruin.

Show me how you want it done. Educate me. Train me.

Lead me. Reward me.

And I will then...do it automatically.

I am your servant.

Who am I?

I am a _____ because Support answer with specific details.

Journal Entry #2: Which is more dangerous - a cobra or a little white lie? Support answer.

Journal Entry #3: Which is faster--gossip or a bullet? Use a specific example to support answer.

Journal Entry #4: Imagine you are a pencil. What do you like to write about? What's the best and worst part of being a pencil?

Journal Entry #5: A similes compares two unlike things with "like" or "as." A metaphor compares two unlike things without "like" or "as." An extended metaphor keeps the comparison going. Below are some examples from last year. Now write your own extended metaphor to describe yourself. Use must have a minimum of three supporting details.

Extended Metaphor/Similes Examples

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.

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.

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.

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 #6: Be who you are and say what you feel, because those who mind don't matter and those who matter don't mind." -- *Theodor Seuss Geisel, aka Dr. Seuss*
Why is this prudent advice? Support answer.

Journal Entry #7: "Show me someone who has never made a mistake and I'll show you somebody who has never achieved much." --Joan Collins

What mistakes have taught you valuable lessons in your life? Give specific example(s).

Journal Entry #8: READ the following poem by Ralph Waldo Emerson and then write your own poetic advice for living a good life:

Advice About How to Live My Life
To laugh often and love much,
To win the respect of intelligent people
and the affection of children,
To earn the appreciation of honest critics and
endure the betrayal of false friends,
To appreciate beauty,
To find the best in others,
To leave the world a bit better whether by
a healthy child, a garden patch,
or a redeemed social condition.
To know even one life has breathed easier
because you have lived.
This to have succeeded.

Journal Entry #9: Write down the following poem. Then write about a time or times that you empathized with the "flowers" (metaphorically speaking).

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

Journal Entry #10: My brain is like a _____. Use figurative language to support answer. Example: My brain is like an airport - ideas fly in and out like a plane; intercom voices continually give me information like my astute teacher, etc.

Journal Entry #11: "A nation that continues year after year to spend more money on military defense than on programs of social uplift is approaching spiritual doom."

-Martin Luther King, Jr.

Do you agree or disagree with this quote? Why? Support your answer with specific examples/reasons.

Journal Entry #12: "There will always be people in this world you will like and dislike. You must strive to get along with the people you dislike as sometimes these people will become your friends. This happened several times when I was in the army."

--Sanford Eugene Mitchell

Write about a time or times that this happened to you or someone you know.

Journal Entry #13: "*That Sam I am, that Sam I am. I do not like that Sam I Am. Do you like green eggs and ham? I do not like green eggs and ham, I do not like them Sam I Am.*"

- Dr. Seuss

Throughout your life, what have you discovered that you liked after previously finding it unpalatable.

Journal Entry #14: READ the following story called *The Two Wolves*.

One evening an old Cherokee told his grandson about a battle that was going on inside himself. He said, "My son, it is a battle between two wolves. One is evil: anger, envy, sorrow, regret, greed, arrogance, self-pity, guilt, resentment, inferiority, lies, false pride, superiority, and ego. The other is good: joy, peace, love, hope, serenity, humility, kindness, benevolence, empathy, generosity, truth, compassion and faith."

The grandson thought about it for a minute, and then asked his grandfather, "Which wolf wins?"

The old Cherokee simply replied, "The one I feed."

Make a list of what wolf you feed the best. Which wolf do you feed the most? How does feeding one wolf over the other benefit you?

Journal Entry #15: "*It is a great thing to know the season for speech and the season for silence.*" Why is this important advice? Support with specific details.

Quarter 1, 2011: THE END

Turn in journal when finalized for project grade.