

√ More is not necessarily better, but an entry less than one-half page might indicate a lack of adequate depth. To earn full credit, complete all twenty-five topics. We can discuss the assigned topics in class, but the majority of your writing will be done out of class. Thus, pace yourself—do several each week, not all of them the night before the due date. Feel free to change the order, as long as you eventually complete them all. And yes, this is *your* journal; therefore “effort” and sincerity are what matter here, not spelling or grammar (but do attempt to write in full sentences).

√ If you don’t feel comfortable writing about a particular topic, feel free to alter or substitute.

√ Evaluation: I check to see that the journal contains all 25 assignments; then I skim some entries, carefully read others, and write a response on a Post-It to one or two of the entries.

The journal grade, of course, is credit/no credit.

√ I don’t assume that what you write is true, so fabricate or attempt to tell the truth as you wish.

Due date for journal entries 1-25: _____

1. Draw a picture of _____ meeting for the first time and then recreate the scene.
2. Respond to this: “It is better to burn out than to fade away.” (Kurt Cobain)
3. List five things that annoy (or delight) you—discuss one of them.
4. If you could order your parents around for one day.
5. Start with this: “The worst meal I have ever eaten”
6. What do your shoes say about your personality, likes, dislikes?
7. Describe the worst way to spend a Friday or Saturday night.
8. Start with this: “The most _____ thing that I have ever done”
9. A dream of yours that will (or will not) come true.
10. Title: My definition of the ideal friend.
11. Draw a symbol that represents you and describe any three aspects of that symbol.
12. Describe one of your dreams or nightmares.
13. Create a dialogue between a ring and a finger, or between a hammer and a nail.
14. How do you think other people see you?
15. Describe a recent fad and discuss your susceptibility to it (or to fads in general).
16. What is the best thing about yourself?
17. What are the best and worst things about being an eighth grader?
18. Write about either superheroes or secrets.
19. Your (least) favorite TV commercial, film, song, book, or team—what and why?
20. If you could take only three things with you to a desert isle—what and why?
21. Respond to this: “. . . our life is what our thoughts make it.” (Marcus Aurelius)
22. Tell a story using a match and a candle as the main characters.
23. Write about either nail polish or gum.
24. What makes you happy?
25. Title: _____ most _____ moment. Tell the story.