

Fenstermaker

Creative Writing 2015-16 Quarter 1 Reflections/Quick Writes:

- **Number** your journal with the **date**
- Include a **brief title** specific to quick write prompt
- Continue to **write for the entire time**

1- Reflection Inspiration: Explain, connect, relate.

“It is easier to stay out than to get out.” Explain

OR: If you had to choose, would you rather be rich or famous? Rich- how would you spend your money? Famous- What would you be famous for?

2- Your mother has just been elected president of the United States. Describe what you are thinking as you pack your things for the White House.

“You can’t always get what you want, but if you try sometimes, you get what you NEED.”

-The Rolling Stones

WANT and NEED are two entirely different things. Define each in your own words. Explain when this has ever happened in your life.

3-Some people say television news programs include too much bad news. Describe a positive story that could be on the evening news. Actually narrate it like it would be aired on the program... Give the details that highlight the positive events.

“Hatred paralyzes life; love releases it. Hatred confuses life; love harmonizes it. Hatred darkens life; love illuminates it.” --[Martin Luther King Jr.](#) *US black civil rights leader & clergyman (1929 - 1968)*

Reflection 4:

- “Music in the soul is heard by the whole universe.” L.T.
- “Some people come into your life as BLESSINGS, and some people come into your life as LESSONS.” - unknown

REFLECTION 5:

1- Imagine that you could design a dream house for your family. Describe the house you would design, and list some of the special features that you would include to make your dream house unique.

2- "Don't cry because it's over, smile because it happened."

— [Dr. Seuss](#)

REFLECTION 6

1. Frustration Map. Start with your name in the center of the page. Branch out by brainstorming everything you can possibly think of that frustrates you, ticks you off, things that you simply think are wrong or things that you dislike or hate.

----- Next, choose one or a few to discuss in your reflection.

2. Pretend that when you awoke this morning, you and your family found you had been transported to another country. Tell what country you're in and what you'll do next.

- **REFLECTION 7: Villian – OR -- No technology**
- Write about a charming villain who steals a secret book.
- Imagine what life would be like without computers or cell phones. Explain a day in the life without either device. How would this change YOUR typical day and dependencies?

REFLECTION 8:

(1) Quote on a door sign: "Happiness often sneaks in a door you did not open."

- - - You don't want to keep all of your "doors" closed and locked. Sometimes the unexpected "visits" are where you find new joys!

(2) Prompt: Would you rather be able to fly, or have the ability to read people's minds?

Why? Explain how you would use your powers for your benefit or others.

REFLECTION 9

- Story Starter: There are three children sitting on a log near a stream. One of them looks up at the sky and says...
- **Story Starter: There's a guy sitting on a park bench reading a newspaper...**

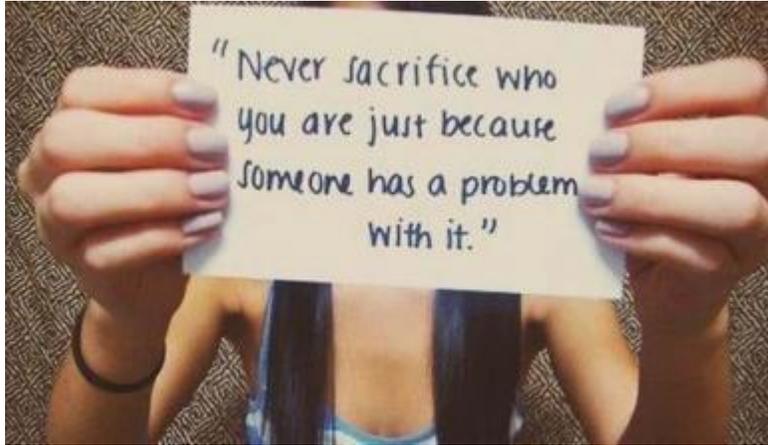
REFLECTION 10:

- Using imagery (sensory details), describe what would be your ideal or perfect birthday celebration. Sky's the limit!
- OR... Taking risks in life...

only those
who dare to
fail greatly
can ever
achieve
greatly

REFLECTION 11:

Prompt 1: Congratulations! You have won the opportunity to direct a scene in a movie featuring your favorite celebrity. Whom would you choose? What kind of movie genre would it be? Action, comedy, adventure, mystery, horror, musical, sci-fi... Describe the scene.

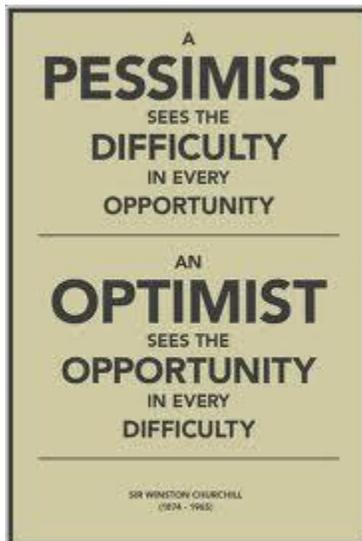


RESPOND

REFLECTION 12:

Prompt 1: WARNING: **This one requires you to play along and be a bit more imaginative.** When you opened your e-mail this morning, you had a message from someone who claimed to be from the planet Zernon. Write a response to the message.

Prompt 2: Which are you? How does this help or hinder your life and situations you face? Explain.



REFLECTION 13:

- What school subject would you like to cancel FOREVER! Why? What subject would you create to put in its place?
- You've lost your last baby tooth. You put it under your pillow and awaken to find that the Tooth Fairy has left you an unusual surprise. Describe what it is and your reaction.

REFLECTION 14:

"The greatest pleasure in life is doing what people say you cannot do." --Walter Bagehot

Respond: Where do you see yourself 10 years from now? What do you hope to have accomplished (include all areas of your life... personal growth, family, education, career, experiences...).

REFLECTION: 15

- **(1) "I like nonsense, it wakes up the brain cells. Fantasy is a necessary ingredient in living, it's a way of looking at life through the wrong end of a telescope. Which is what I do, and that enables you to laugh at life's realities." - Dr. Seuss**
- **How do you escape life's realities?**
- **(2)"We can learn a lot from crayons; some are colorful, some are pretty, but they are all in the same box!"- unknown**
- **Explain, interpret, connect, or create!!!**

REFLECTION: 16

- 1. Prompt: the start of a line/story and you continue on...When you go into survival mode your brain does not necessarily do logical things. For example, *the first time the power went out in my new house I filled up all the sinks and tub with...***
- 2. “When words fail... music speaks.” -- Explain how “music speaks” when “words fail” and how music plays a part in your life.**

Reflection 17:

- ▶ **Choose a person who you think should be pictured on an American coin or bill. Explain why the person should receive this honor.**
- ▶ **Imagine that your house, school, community are underground. Describe a typical day.**

Reflection 18: School Life---

SCHOOL LIFE: (list several or explain choices)

- 1. Irritating Moments- morning alarm**
- 2. Difficult Task- to find socks, understanding AP Physics**
- 3. Dreadful Journey- way to class, JRW to RHS**
- 4. Lovely Time- new friends, homecoming, F.trip**
- 5. Tragic Moments- surprise test 1st period**
- 6. Wonderful News- teacher is absent, A on test**

Reflection 19:

- **You and your friend made a bet, and you lost. Now you have to do something silly on the street in front of your house. What was the bet that you lost? What do you have to do now that you lost? Describe how this would make you feel. How would others react?**

- **You are taking a bath when a slimy green creature drops out of the faucet and into your bath water. Describe what happens next. Describe the creature and its intentions or reactions to you. Describe your own responses to the creature.**

Reminder: Your aim is to write at least **10 sentences** during the 10 minutes. Number and title each reflection.

- REFLECTION 20:
- **Reminder:** Your aim is to write at least **10 sentences** during the 10 minutes. **Number and title** each reflection.
- 1) Free write about your weekend. Describe anything you did over the past weekend.
- 2) *“Man cannot discover new oceans unless he has the courage to lose sight of the shore.”* -Andrew Gide
- What does this mean. When have you ever lost sight of the “shore” to take risks and discover the “ocean” in your life?

Reflection 21:

1- If you could invite a famous person to your birthday party, whom would it be? Why?

What would he or she (and you and your friends/family) do at the party?

2- Finish this sentence: I am a good person to know because... Write a fictional infomercial, poem, newspaper article, or journal to explain and elaborate on your “goodness” that you have to offer.

Reflection 22:

- 1. As you are erasing a misspelled word in your journal, you make a startling discovery: If you rub the eraser on your skin, your skin disappears. What would you do next?**
- 2. Pretend that you have just received a mysterious package in the mail. The box contains \$100 and a bag of**

your favorite candy. Who do you think sent this package? Why? What will you do with the money? What kind of candy did you receive?

Reflection 23:

- **What if you had an invisible friend? Write a funny story about the day your invisible friend decided to follow you to school?**
- **Here is your character: 25 year old woman in a crowded mall. Kill her. (Created by: Sam H.)**
- **First Line: As he took in the view from the twentieth floor, the lights went out all over the city**

Reflection 24:

- **In honor of Youth Art Month, imagine that you have created a fantastic work of art which is going to be displayed in a local art gallery. Write the description that would be displayed next to your work of art. Also, what would it be titled?**
 - **Who has given you the most encouragement in your life? Explain your answer. ** This does not have to be somebody that you actually know. It can be somebody that has inspired you through music, art, sports... but it can also be a family member, friend, co-worker...**

Ref 25:

1) Red? Blue? Green? Purple? (Any color you choose...) Write down your favorite color, then make a list of all the things that are your favorite color. Now use this list to write a short passage or poem about the color and what you associate with it.

2) Respond/interpret/connect: "The mighty Oak was once a little nut that stood its ground." – Anon

QW: 26

1. **Heart 2 Heart Day** is observed annually after Valentine's Day. We are a bit late, but better late than never...write a heart-to-heart letter to someone who is extra special to you.

2. **Levi Strauss, the creator of the first pair of jeans, was born on February 26th 1829.**

Describe your favorite outfit (it does NOT have to include jeans).

QW: 27

1. **If I knew I could NEVER die...**

2. **Thoughts, feelings, explanations, venting, observations... "Why is everyone in a rush?"**

QW: 28

A. November 18th is Mickey Mouse's birthday. Since his creation, Mickey Mouse has become one of the most famous cartoon characters. If you could create a friend for Mickey Mouse, what type of character would you create?

B. On this day in 1820, Antarctica was discovered. Would you be interested in traveling to Antarctica? Why or why not?

C. Yesterday was "National Take a Hike Day." If you could plan a hike for your family or classmates, where would you take them?

QW: 29

Random Word Prompts- USE: Peanut, because, war, sophisticated

November is "National Peanut Butter Lover's Month." A large number of students today are allergic to peanut butter. Some classrooms and/or schools have even become "Peanut Free" zones. Do you think this is fair for the students are not allergic to peanut butter? Explain your thinking.

1. **Outside the Window:** What's the weather outside your window doing right now? If that's not inspiring, what's the weather like somewhere you wish you could be? Describe your ideal season, weather, clothing for these temps, location, activities...

QW 30:

1. **The Unrequited love poem:** How do you feel when you love someone who does not love you back?
2. **The Vessel:** Write about a ship or other vehicle that can take you somewhere different from where you are now.
3. November 6th is known as "Basketball Day." The inventor of basketball, James Naismith, was born on this day in 1861. Is basketball a sport you play or would like to play or watch? Explain what you know about the sport of basketball, what you like/dislike, any connections or associations you have with it, etc...

QW 31:

- ✓ **Dancing:** Who's dancing and why are they tapping those toes? Your character woke up with a talented gift. One morning they discovered they could breakdance like a star! They want to enter the school talent show but must try-out for a spot... OR write about your own dancing memories, connections, interests or talents..
- ✓ **Food:** What's for breakfast? Dinner? Lunch? Or maybe you could write a poem about that time you met a friend at a cafe. Or write a passage about meeting an on-line "pen-pal" for the first time at the coffee shop.

QW 32:

- **Eye Contact:** Write about two people seeing each other for the first time. Who are they? Where/how do they cross paths? What are their reactions?
- **The Rocket-ship:** Write about a rocket-ship on its way to the moon or a distant galaxy far, far, away.
- **Dream-catcher:** Write something inspired by a recent dream you had or try to make meaning out of a recent or recurring dream.

QW 33:

- **Animals:** Choose an animal. Write about it!
- **Friendship:** Write about being friends with someone. What is good/bad about it?
- **Dragon:** Envision a dragon. Do you battle him? Or is the dragon friendly? Use descriptive language to describe your encounter.

QW 34:

- **Eavesdropper:** Create a poem, short story, or journal entry about a conversation you've overheard.
- **Addict:** Everyone's addicted to something in some shape or form. What are things you can't go without?
- **Dictionary Definition:** Open up a dictionary to a random word. Define what that word means to you. (On top shelf by windows)

QW 35:

1. Create your own holiday. What would you celebrate? How could you get others to join in the fun? Any special traditions for this holiday?
2. Would you rather hang out by yourself after school or with friends? Why? How would you spend this solo or buddy time?
3. If you could end any one problem in the world, what would it be? Why?

QW 36:

December is Universal Human Rights Month. What THREE rights do you think ALL human should have? Explain.

While no two snowflakes are alike, all snowflakes share certain characteristics. For example, all snowflakes have six sides. In what ways are snowflakes like people?

QW 37:

- A. WHAT???? What is your "DREAM" job? What in your life is more important than money? What if you could see 24 hours into the future – what would you do with this ability? What makes you feel like a "kid" still? If you could be any character

(book/movie/tv show), who would you be and why? What is the strangest food or concoction you have ever eaten?

- B. WOULD YOU????? Would you rather have an extra hour every day or have \$40 given to you free and clear every day? Why? Explain why you'd rather have the time or money.
- 2) Would you rather spend three day camping in a beautiful location and not see another person **or** spend three days in a busy city sharing a hotel suite with your brother/sister or another relative if you have no siblings?

QW 38:

1. You have a dream about something horrific or terrifying and in your dream you take a picture of it with your cell phone. In the morning, you discover the picture **is actually** on your phone.
2. Your character buys an antique trunk from a junk shop and discovers a mummified body inside—a body that was murdered.
3. One day you realize that everything you write in a particular notebook comes true...

QW 39:

1. *What do older generations misunderstand about yours?*
2. *What is "special" about your hometown? (Painesville or Cleveland)*
3. *What motivates you? How much self-control do you have?*

QW 40: Choose Your Own Adventure

1. You become a character in your favorite video game, and...
2. Your grandma comes to town and brings an **unexpected surprise**...
3. You are an astronaut who finds something strange on the moon...
4. Your parents tell you that you're moving across the country...
5. An alien comes to Earth, and...
6. At the beach, you find a special seashell...
7. At summer camp, the boys and girls wage a prank war against one another.
8. Every time a dog barks, something unusual happens...
9. You learn that you are heir to a throne...
10. At the library, you find a photo of YOU in a book.