

Cathartic Journal Process



Journal writing, a process that allows students to express themselves is done daily. Journal Writing is an outlet for authors (students) to write their feelings, comments, questions, fears and personal insights each day. Their journal becomes their own personal record of life as a middle school student.

Journals are graded with a simple rubric that allows even a struggling writer to be successful. Grading does not look for grammar structure or spelling, instead that the reader completed an entry that has the potential for use in other writing or activities such as Socratic Seminars, Mock Courtrooms, Etc.

Journal Rubric

1. Entries are dated and the date is located on the outside edge of the journal page.
2. Entries are a minimum of 1 ½ pages in length.
 - a. 1 ½ pages (10 points)
 - b. 1 page (5 points)
 - c. Less than 1 page (0 points)
3. Entries consist of words that form sentences and paragraphs.
 - a. Entries consisting of no thought, words, etc. receive no credit.
4. Authors may format entries into poetry on occasion.
 - a. On occasion means, once a week.

Journal Topics

Authors will be given topics to write about weekly if needed as authors are encouraged to write on their own personal topics, however students must write and not having a topic is not acceptable. Additional Journal Prompts may be found on Mr. Williams' website (www.mrwilliamsclass.com).

Journal Submission

Authors will select one entry to be processed for publication per semester, a student's journal submission maybe on a topic that has been written in several Journal Entries.

Entries are due on or before November 30th or May 31st depending on school calendar.

Note

This Cathartic Journal Process Information Document serves as written reminder of already established norms for the Writing Process. This document is to ensure that no author misunderstands the intent of the Journal Requirements.