

# Read. Write. Think!



## Writing Journal Guidelines

**The Journal:** We will start class most days with a journal write. Monday through Thursday you will be provided with a prompt, such as a question, a quote, a photo, a political cartoon, etc. Your job is to view or read the prompt and respond in your journal. On Fridays, you can expect to do a Free Write.

**What is a Free Write?** A free write is exactly what it sounds like. You can write about whatever is on your mind. Feeling creative? You could write a poem or lyrics to a song that has been bouncing around in your head, or maybe you can express yourself better by drawing. It's YOUR time to explore whatever YOU want.

**Journal Checks:** As with all work in English IV it is your responsibility to keep up with your journals. If you miss class, you can either ask a buddy what the prompt was, or look in the make-up work folder. The journals will be checked at the same time. Each entry should include the following:

- The date
- The prompt, or description of the prompt (if it is a photo or cartoon)
- Your response in complete sentences

### Grading Rubric:

Category	Exemplary (100)	Satisfactory (85)	Developing (70)
Length	Each journal entry is at least one paragraph long (4-5 sentences).	Most journal entries are at least one paragraph long.	Some journal entries are at least one paragraph long.
Neatness/Legible	The journal is neat and well cared for. Handwriting is neat.	Your journal is usually neat and well cared for. Handwriting is neat most of the time.	Your journal needs some TLC, and your handwriting could be neater.
Use of Time	Entries are completed in time given.	Entries are completed outside of class.	Student did not complete the journal entry.
Thoroughness	Response is as thorough as possible.	Response is complete, but vague.	Response is off task.
Quantity	All entries are present.	Most entries are completed.	Half or less of assigned entries are present.