

Section 1 Assignment

Journal Entries

What Is a Journal?

A journal is your place to record your ideas, feelings, questions, and reflections about all that you encounter in English 12. Your journal is, more specifically, a way to practice using the concepts and ideas studied in your course work. The journal entries will be collected and marked at the end of each section.

Typically, people writing in a journal, diary, or web log use reflective writing, especially when relaying events from their personal life, expressing an opinion, or sharing their feelings about anything. Reflective writing is especially useful as a tool to help you connect to and cement with your learning. Any journal entry should include reflective writing; it helps learners to not only remember what they learned, but also to express their feelings about a topic. It also enables students to share questions about their course performance and express any connections felt between current and past learning as well as any thoughts for the future.

The following sample of journal writing is also an example of reflective writing.

I thought the article about needle exchange depots was balanced in how it addressed both sides of the issue. I wouldn't want to have a needle exchange near my house because I have kids and I don't want them exposed to local crime. But I think they are really necessary in helping to reduce illness and the spread of disease.

The intention is for you to have a personal place to take note of, and pride in, all that you have read, learned and enjoyed in this challenging and rewarding course. Submitting your journal entries also gives your teacher insight into your learning process.

There are no specific guidelines for the recommended length of an entry, but in general you should aim for 150–200 words unless otherwise specified. Although you are not marked on the quality of your written expression, avoid spelling or grammatical errors, and write in the first person. Complete each journal entry as you work through the table of contents in each section. If you need to review how to use journals, please see WebCT Tutorials located on the Home Page.

Once they have all been completed, submit all your journal entries for this section for evaluation for a maximum total of 12 marks. Your teacher will select your three best journal entries for grading. When all your journals have been submitted, type “journals completed” into the Submission box for this assignment and press Submit. This lets your teacher know the journals are ready to be evaluated.

How Will My Journal Entries Be Evaluated?

You will submit your journal entries to your teacher at the end of each section. You must submit work of good quality to earn full marks. Do not wait until the last minute to scribble down a few quick ideas.

Your teacher will mark your journal entries based on the Journal Scoring Guide. Each journal entry is worth 4 marks.

Evaluation Guidelines	Marks
Your journal entries will be marked according to the Journal Scoring Guide x 3	12
Total Marks	/12