
Sample Rubric for Journal Entries

Name:

Evaluation Period is from:

to:

Number of Responses:

5/5	On balance, journal responses are full and complete. Some entries are insightful and perceptive, connecting personal experience to the text and making inferences and judgements. There is a thoughtful interpretation of what was read, heard, or viewed. Some entries go beyond personal experiences or the particular to generalize some aspect(s) of the author's craft, style, and use of language. All inferences and judgements are supported with reference to the text. Not every entry needs to be at this level for students to be rated at a 5 level.
4/5	Journal responses are complete. They show personal involvement with and understanding of the text, and make reasonable inferences and judgements. They reflect an understanding of the author's stance and perspective on the world. Inferences and judgements are supported with reference to the text. Some entries comment on the author's craft, style, and use of language.
3/5	Journal responses meet basic expectations but some responses are missing necessary detail or include unnecessary information. The writer relates to or identifies with characters in the text, but only makes inferences and judgements with general reference to the text. Entries show the reader connecting the text to life experiences or other texts, but not critically assessing the author's ideas, craft, style, or use of language.
2/5	Journal responses are general and not expanded upon or may ramble repetitively without clear connections. The writer may empathize with or judge characters in the text, but not consider the context or significance of the character's experiences. Entries show an attempt to interpret or explain the text, but make inferences and judgements with only vague reference to the text itself. Consideration is not given to the author's ideas, craft, style, or use of language.
1/5	Journal responses are incomplete, unclear, or show little effort or insight. The writer occasionally makes observations or predictions about characters or events but these are vague and unsupported. Entries are often simply summaries or retellings of the events in the text. The writer may rate the text, but give little or no support for assertions, and any judgements are on the basis of personal opinion or pre-conceptions.