**Creative Writing Journal**

**What should I use for my journal?**

* You may use a spiral notebook, a fancy journal, or a small, three-ringed binder
* Do not use a large three-ringed binder or a notebook/binder shared with another class.

**How should I organize my journal?**

* Please name and date every entry.
* You will have in class entries.
* You will have 2 additional entries (free write) each week.

**What colored pen should I use?**

Blue or black.

**Should I write one entry per page? Can I write on backs of pages?**

Your choice.

**How will I be graded?**

* Journals are graded on completion and organization:
* For your in-class entries, you have written for the whole time given based on the prompt provided. You have adhered to the assignment guidelines.
* For any homework, you have written at minimum 200 words of free writing, adding more as the year progresses.
* Journals are graded on effort, commitment, risk-taking, and play. (Were you honest? Did you

care, have fun, try something new, or write something that scared you?)

* You will **NOT** be graded on spelling, grammar, handwriting, or the organization of your ideas.
* If I cannot READ it, I cannot GRADE it. Neatness matters.

**When will journals be collected?**

Always have your journal up-to-date and ready to be collected.

**May I type my journal entries instead of handwriting them?**

Most students handwrite their journals. If you want to type the entries you write at home, you must print and paste them into your notebook.

**May I decorate my journal?**

Sure! On the cover and pages, you may add your favorite quotes, make a collage, paste photographs, tape in ticket stubs, add stickers, draw.

**Is my journal private?**

I will keep everything you write confidential, with one exception: *If someone is hurting you or you plan to hurt yourself or others, I am legally and morally required to share that information. However, unless it is an emergency, I will not do so without speaking to you first.*

**What if I don’t want the teacher to read what I wrote?**

Do not write anything in your journal that you do not expect me to read.

**What can I write about in my free writing at home (2 entries per week)?**

Free writing time is for you, and you may write whatever you want or need. You must have at least TWO free writes per week. This is HOMEWORK.

You may . . .

Start your screenplay.

Write a song.

Write a poem.

Write a draft of your APUSH essay.

Write down those lyrics that won’t get out of your head.

Ask questions.

Think about your future.

Write a letter to someone.

Set goals.

Give yourself a pep talk.

Rant. Complain.

Write about yesterday.

Plan for tomorrow.

Write a gratitude list.

Write a to-do list.

Start a new story.

Continue a previous journal entry.

Write about the dream you had last night.

Pray.

Record memories.

Outline your novel.