St. George’s College Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

English Department Class: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

III Unit - 2015 Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

R. Bell/C. Greco/M.P. Muñoz

Journal Entries Guide

Journal Entries Description

You will have approximately **45 minutes** to write your journal entry. You need to bring **your own book to the evaluation** since you **will not be** **allowed to share**.

You may bring extra material for the day of the evaluation that you think might be useful, for example: list or irregular verbs, adjective, connectors, etc. However, you may not bring any paragraph already prepared.

Advice on writing your journals:

You have to write between **150-200 words**, so you should try to explain every point you make very clearly, so that you don’t run out things to say.

**The Three Questions**

**1) Do you think it is good advice or not? Why?**

**Suggestions on how to write paragraph 1:**

1. Find a quote (sentence) that you liked from the Decision for Success you’re working in.
2. Write the reason why you liked it.

Example:

*I really liked the decision that said “I must accept responsibility for my own problems” because it’s something difficult for me to do, but it’s something I have to learn to do.*

**2) Give a clear example from your life in which you have either:**

**Suggestions on how to write paragraph 2:**

1. Write if you HAVE USED this advice **OR** NOT.
2. Give a specific example from your life.

**(1) Used the key to success.**

Example:

*I have always tried to be responsible for my success. Ever since I decided that I wanted to be part of the volleyball team when I was little, I have been training hard every day because I know that if I don’t I won’t be very good.*

**OR**

**(2) Have not used it.**

Example:

*Personally, I haven’t used this idea as much as I would’ve liked to… I kind of always felt that some things were out of my control and I couldn’t change them. For example, I thought that me being bad at sports was just like my destiny or something, you know? And because of that I couldn’t get better at them.*

**REMEMBER:** Your answer should be honest and reflect a deep understanding of the Decision for Success.

**3) How this advice can be used in your life in the future?**

**Suggestions on how to write paragraph 3:**

1. Write down **HOW** the advice you chose can be used to FIX (if you **have not used** it) or MAINTAIN (if you **have** used it) the situation you’re in.
2. In this paragraph you should talk about **your future**.

Example:

*Well, now I’m starting to think that I was wrong :) The book says it best: “I will begin to change where I am today by changing the way I think.” This advice gives me a lot of hope for the future, since it makes me feel that it’s not as if I was born good or bad at things, it’s just I that thought I was. I’ve realized that I’m not BAD at sports, I THINK I am bad at sports and that’s the reason why I struggle with them! So, In the future, I’ll remember that how well I do in anything I try to do is up to me.*

Study Materials

**Appendix 2: Expressing Opinions**

These are useful expressions that you can use to present your ideas!

**Intermediate:**

1. As far as I know, …
2. I agree with the opinion of …
3. I could be wrong, but…
4. I’d definitely say that …
5. I’d guess/imagine that…
6. I’d say that…
7. I’m absolutely certain that…
8. I’m positive that…
9. I’m pretty sure that…
10. It seems to me that…
11. My (point of) view (on this) is…
12. Obviously, …
13. Some people may disagree with me, but…
14. This is just my opinion, but…
15. Without a doubt,…
16. You probably won’t agree, but…

**Upper-Intermediate:**

1. After much thought, …
2. As I see it, …
3. Correct me if I’m wrong, but …
4. For me/From my point of view, …
5. Frankly, …
6. I am not very familiar with this topic, but …
7. I do believe/feel/think…
8. I have come to the conclusion that…
9. I might change my mind later, but…
10. I reckon/suppose…
11. I tend to think that…
12. I’m not sure I’m the right person to ask, but…
13. I have very limited experience in this, but….
14. I’m pretty confident that…
15. I’ve always thought that…
16. If you ask me, …
17. I’m (absolutely) convinced that…
18. It could be said that …
19. It seems clear to me that…
20. It would seem to me that…
21. My initial reaction is…
22. Not everyone will/would agree with me, but…
23. Personally speaking, …
24. Speaking for myself, …
25. The way I see it (is)…
26. To be (perfectly) frank, …
27. To the best of my knowledge, …
28. What I think is …
29. You could say (that)…

**Advanced**

1. After giving this matter some (serious) thought, …
2. As far as I’m concerned, …
3. I am of the opinion that…
4. I can’t help thinking that…
5. I tend towards the opinion that …
6. I think it’s fair/reasonable to say…
7. I’ll tell you what I think, …
8. I’m entirely/quite convinced that…
9. I’ve come to the conclusion that…
10. If I must come up with an opinion…
11. If you really want my opinion…
12. In my limited experience, …
13. It could/might well be that…
14. Know what I think? …
15. My opinion was best expressed by … when s/he said/wrote…
16. My view/position on this (issue) is that…
17. Plainly, …
18. Quite frankly, …
19. There is a part of me that says …
20. This may well be controversial, but …
21. To my mind/To my way of thinking, …

**Review of Past Tenses**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Tense | Use | Form | Affirmative | Negative |
| Simple Past | Action took place in the past, mostly connected with an expression of time | Regular:  Infinitive + ed | I worked.  *He worked*.  I went.  *He went.* | I didn´t work.  *He didn´t work*.  I didn´t go.  *He didn´t go.* |
| Past Continuous | 1. An action happened in the middle of another action  2. Someone was doing sth. at a certain time (in the past) | Regular:  Was/were + infinitive + ing | I was working.  *He was working.*  I was going.  *He was going.* | I wasn´t working.  *He wasn´t working.*  I wasn´t going.  *He wasn´t going.* |
| Simple Present Perfect | 1. You say that sth. has happened or is finished in the past and it has a connection to the present  2. Action started in the past and continues up to the present | Regular: have/has + past participle\*  \*infinitive + ed  Note: Irregular verbs from 3rd column list of verbs | I have worked.  *He has worked.*  I have gone.  *He has gone.* | I haven´t worked.  *He hasn´t worked.*  I haven´t gone.  *He hasn´t gone.* |
| Present Perfect Continuous | 1. Action began in the past and has just stopped.  2. How long the action has been happening | Regular: have/has + been + infinitive + ing | I have been working.  *He has been working.*  I have been going.  *He has been going.* | I haven´t been working.  *He hasn´t been working.*  I haven´t been going.  *He hasn´t been going.* |
| Simple Past Perfect | 1. Mostly when two actions in a story are related to each other  2. The past of the Present Perfect | Regular:  Had + past participle\*  \*infinitive + ed  Note: Irregular verbs from 3rd column list of verbs | I had worked.  *He had worked.*  I had gone.  He had gone. | I hadn´t worked.  *He hadn´t worked.*  I hadn´t gone.  *He hadn´t gone.* |
| Past Perfect Continuous | How long something had been happening before something else happened | Regular: had + been + infinitive + ing | I had been working.  *He had been working.*  I had been going.  *He had been going*. | I hadn´t been working.  *He hadn´t been working.*  I hadn´t been going.  *He hadn´t been going.* |

**Exercises on the past simple can be found here:**

<https://www.ego4u.com/en/cram-up/tests/simple-past-1>

<https://www.ego4u.com/en/cram-up/tests/simple-past-2>

https://www.ego4u.com/en/cram-up/tests/simple-past-3

For a list of **Irregular Verbs**, see the following link:

<https://www.englishclub.com/vocabulary/irregular-verbs-list.htm>

You are encouraged to print this guide and bring it with you to class; you can bring it for use on your evaluations, too.