January 26, 2010

1st and 2nd

Daybook Introduction

Some students may not have a composition notebook because this is the second day of class for 2nd period. 1st period should have their notebooks by today. In case there are students who do not have a composition notebook with them today, I will have notebooks they can buy for a low price.

Subject:

English IV – British Literature

Time:

30 minutes

NCSCOS:

Materials:

Daybook (Composition Notebook)

Pen/Pencil

Gluestick

Construction Paper

Markers/Sharpies

Old Magazines (if available)

Scissors

Lesson:

Ask students to get out their composition notebooks while you pass out gluesticks. If there are students who do not have their notebooks, I will sell them one. Before we begin, the students will make a section at the beginning of their notebook for the Table of Contents. Show them an example and give them 5 minutes begin their own Table of Contents. Next, I will discuss the idea behind the daybook and how we will be using it in class this semester. The students will receive three handouts: Message from the Daybook, The Daybook, and My One-of-a-Kind Daybook. After discussing the daybook and going over the requirements, students will have the opportunity to begin personalizing their daybook. We will work on this for 15-20 minutes; the students will continue this activity at home. **Make sure students understand that inappropriate images and language on the cover will NOT be tolerated. If I see either within the notebook, I will talk to the student to address the issue.**

The following handouts were created by Dr. Shana Hartman and Carrie Sippy

**A message from me, your daybook…**

Allow me to introduce myself, I’m your daybook. What’s that? You don’t know what a daybook is? That’s ok. By the time I’m done with my explanation, you’ll not only know what one is, you’ll be part of a very cool group of people that uses daybooks like me to capture their thoughts. Let me share with you what I am and how we can begin to explore life together in a way that you’ve never imagined. I want you to think of me as a place where you can begin to capture your thinking. Have you ever sat in class, heard a concept or tried a skill that you weren’t so sure of? We all have. Ever try to get the teacher’s attention to ask about it and not get the opportunity? Think of me as a place to capture that thought. After writing it down, think of a time when you can get the teacher’s attention then show the question to her. Have you ever sat in class and thought about something you were interested in writing about but you didn’t have anything with you to get the idea down on paper? I can be the place where cool ideas like that get written down so they’re not forgotten. Have you ever just wanted to sit and write about something that angered you or something that you were really happy about? If you “dump” those thoughts in to me…I’ll listen!! It’s what I live to do…engage in life with you!! I’m the place where you can ***think out loud on paper!!*** Use me in the classroom and out of the classroom. Don’t be afraid to be messy either. Have you seen your teacher’s desk lately? That huge mess means that she’s thinking!! Sometimes our thinking is messy, sometimes it’s not. The point is, I’m the place where it can all go so you can access it whenever you want for whatever reason. Sound like fun? Alright then, let’s get started!!!

\*adapted from Tony Iannone; NCETA 2007

“For Students”

**The Daybook**

*“The point of a notebook is to jump-start the mind” – John Dunne*

 What is a Daybook?

A notebook

A “kitchen junk drawer”

A record of your writing and thinking

 What is *in* a Daybook

Questions that YOU have that need to be answered

Fragments of writing

Leads

Titles

Ideas

Notes

Thoughts

Quotations

Song lyrics

Lists

Diagrams

Pictures

Observations

Handouts

Newspaper Clippings

“Breathing In refers to the way the notebook serves as a container for selected insights, lines, images, ideas, dreams, and fragments of talk gathered from the world around you. . .

Breathing Out suggests that the notebook is a fine place from which to take what you have collected and use it to spark your own original writing.”

-From *Breathing In, Breathing Out Keeping a Writer’s Notebook* by Ralph Fletcher

**My One-of-a-Kind Daybook**

Ingredients:

1. 3 parts creativity
2. 2 parts great ideas
3. 2 parts time
4. 2 parts frustration (If you're frustrated, you're learning!)
5. 1 part messiness
6. 1 part uncensored thought
7. dash of love
8. pinch of rambling
9. individuality of taste

Directions:

Mix all ingredients thoroughly over the course of a semester. Measurements will vary based on the chef. Add a dash of love and a pinch of rambling (though sometimes it may take much more than a pinch to make a difference). Some like to season their daybook with pictures, quotes, magazine clippings, sketches, drawings, and doodles. Each daybook should be mixed to taste, adding more or less of each ingredient (and combining new ingredients) as the chef sees fit. Let the daybook simmer, stew, and then boil until it overflows with meaning. Again, no two daybooks will be exactly the same--different flavors, appearances, textures, etc. Be creative!

\*Adapted from: Sippy, Carrie. "Ingredients of a Daybook." 2008.