

WRITING STRATEGIES

Quick Journal

What are the benefits of imagination and having fun?

Instructions: Describe a moment with friends when you had a lot of fun talking about something that made you laugh. Try to capture as much of the banter or dialogue you remember as possible so a reader might be able to imagine what the conversation was really like. What makes the language you share with good friends special? Then answer: What are the benefits of imagination and having fun?

2 ©Thinkcerca.com Inc. 2023

Student Tasks:

- Use paper, a notebook or handout.
- Write your answer to prompt.

Online ThinkCERCA Modules:

- See Quick Journal prompts in the Unit Guides.

Quick Journal

Pre-reading, post-reading, reflection or skill introduction activity

Approx. 5-10 minutes

Rationale/Research Base

Quick journals activate students' prior knowledge and experiences to help them find a personal entry point for the text.

Optimal Application Notes:

Share question or prompt that is both engaging to students and related to the text/topic. Prompt should be open-ended and answerable in the time allotted. Quick Journals can be used at the beginning of every class period as a bellringer.

Before:

- Introduce the question or prompt. One place to start is to consider how students may relate to the chapter, skills, or text. For example, when introducing *Lord of the Flies* by William Golding, a quick journal question could be: What are three objects you would want on a deserted island? How would these objects be useful?
- Encourage students to write without regard to a right or wrong answer. Remind students that this writing will not be graded; the focus is on activating their thoughts and ideas and capturing them on paper.

During:

- Be sure everyone gets started writing.
- Circulate the room as students are writing in case they have questions or need help getting on task.

After:

- (Today) Ask for volunteers to share their responses, or have students share in pairs. This is a good opportunity for the teacher to share their answer to the prompt and build relationships within the classroom.
- (Today and Tomorrow) Journal responses can be used in future lessons, discussions, or assignments.

Scaffolds & Supports:

- Provide sentence frames to help students begin.
- Provide students with bilingual glossaries, alternate versions of the task, options for recording responses, etc.
- Have students paraphrase the question or prompt in order to check for comprehension.

Quick Journal

What are the benefits of imagination and having fun?

Instructions: Describe a moment with friends when you had a lot of fun talking about something that made you laugh. Try to capture as much of the banter or dialogue you remember as possible, so a reader might be able to imagine what the conversation was really like. What makes the language you share with good friends special? Then answer: *What are the benefits of imagination and having fun?*

A blank lined notebook page with a red vertical margin line on the left side. There are three binder holes punched along the left edge. The page is filled with horizontal blue lines for writing.