

## Covid 19 Journal Writing Project

You are living through an unprecedented moment in history—right now! Today, tomorrow, and the days that follow will be captured in history books. Someday, you will share stories with your children and grandchildren about living through this time. Because these days are historical, it is critical that we not let these events pass without capturing how they affect you, your family, your school, and your community. Since you will be “schooling” from home, I will describe here the daily assigned work to be done outside the classroom.

**You will start journaling on either Google Docs or a Home Journal (2 pages per day).**

Check your Google Classroom Page for important information

### **Daily writing:**

You will be asked to write two pages (or more) a day in your writer’s notebook or on a Doc, capturing your thoughts, questions, comments, and concerns about the events that are unfolding. I want you to capture this history—your history—any way you’d like. Below are some suggestions for your daily writing, but you do not need to follow them. Feel free to generate your own thinking.

**Some possibilities for daily writing:** (Each day, you will determine what you want to write about)

- Capture how this virus has disrupted your school year—including sporting events, concerts, assemblies, dances.
- Discuss how your daily life has been disrupted.
- Share the effect it has had on your friends and family.
- As we go into more social isolation, you might write reviews of movies, television shows, podcasts, video games to share with your classmates.
- Respond to any **seed** about the crisis you find interesting. A “**seed**” can be an article, a broadcast, a Tedtalk, a tweet, a photograph, a podcast, a film, an Instagram (or another online) post, a TikTok video, a political cartoon—anything that spurs some thinking about the crisis. You are encouraged to find your own seeds—whatever you think is worth writing about—but if you have trouble getting started, you might want to respond to one or more of the following seeds:

### **Examples of Things to Write about:**

- Two Women Fell Sick, One Survived Two Women Fell Sick From the Coronavirus. One Survived.

<https://www.nytimes.com/interactive/2020/03/13/world/asia/coronavirus-death-life.html>

- CDC Cases in the US  
<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/cases-updates/cases-in-us.html>
- Corona Virus Ted Talk  
[https://www.ted.com/talks/alanna\\_shaikh\\_coronavirus\\_is\\_our\\_future/transcript?language=en](https://www.ted.com/talks/alanna_shaikh_coronavirus_is_our_future/transcript?language=en)
- Corona Virus Political Cartoons  
<https://www.cagle.com/bob-englehart/2020/03/corona-news>
- Examining Corona Virus Memes: Which ones do you like? Why do you think there are so many etc
- Create a musical playlist that is either on theme, or that you recommend for giving “good vibes”
- Research another pandemic / what were the outcomes?
- How to flatten the curve  
<https://www.washingtonpost.com/graphics/2020/world/corona-simulator/>
- Researches are using World of Warcraft to help fight Corona  
<https://www.pcgamer.com/the-researchers-who-once-studied-wows-corrupted-blood-plague-are-now-fighting-the-coronavirus/>
- Review: Game (Animal Crossing, anyone?), album, movie, TV show etc
- Create your own song, poem and / piece of fiction that actively expresses how you feel
- The news cycle is changing everyday. Discuss a current event article.
- Create a photo scrapbook of the events that will unfold in the next few weeks
- Create a blog or podcast discussing the issues at hand or commenting on how you are feeling.

### **Grading:**

- You will be given a completion grade for every day we are out of school. (5 pts each)
- At some point, you will be asked to select, edit, and revise your 5-8 best journal entries. These will count as quiz and test grades.
- You will submit these stories on Google Classroom, and either present them via video or present them to your class when we come back.

### **Final Thoughts:**

Things may seem a little bit scary right now, but you can hold that power by writing, collecting and gathering your thoughts. Please use this time to be working on your writing. Educate yourself as much as possible, and do not buy into “fake news.” Feel free to email or text via Remind app, if needed. Empower yourself to be equipped with knowledge. We will all see each other soon. I look forward to that day!

