

THEORY OF KNOWLEDGE II – SENIORS
SUMMER ASSIGNMENT
MS. CONNER

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Theory of Knowledge Journal and Discussion

Summer Assignment – Due date is August 23 (deadline is August 24)

1. **Journal** - Create three (3) journal entries that specifically include thoughts about the **different ways of knowing**.
 - a. Submit the journal entries to turnitin.com
 - b. Each journal entry is a 20 point formative assessment.
 - c. **Each journal entry must be dated and must clearly explain why the subject is pertinent to TOK.** Beyond those two requirements, there is no set format to journal entries. The entire journal may be all narrative. Poems, dialogues, drawings and items pasted in like a scrapbook may be appropriate. If you want to include pictures, diagrams, drawings or other items you need to “paste” into your entry, you can scan them or you can submit your journal entry manually on paper instead of using turnitin.com.
 - d. If I do not clearly understand the relevance of your entry to TOK, the particular entry will receive no credit.
 - e. Remember, you are always dealing with problems of knowing.

2. **Discussion** – **Post at least two (2) insights you gained about ways of knowing through your journaling. Comment on at least 5 entries others have made about their insights.** (25 point completion grade)

Rationale:

To ensure that this class is not devoid of contact with the “real world”, you will keep a journal. In this journal you will record outside references to what you hear and discuss in class. Your entries will be kept private. Unless you desire to bring them up during a class discussion, your journal is a shared “dialogue” between the two of us. When you write your TOK paper, you may find your journal entries have provided stimuli for further discussion.

The Subject Matter:

The purpose of the journal is to create dialogue with yourself in which you question the world and propose your own insights into the how and why of things. Any thought or insight relevant to TOK is acceptable for a journal entry. Any experience you have which seems related to problems of knowing could become a part of your journal. If you read something that triggers an association – a book, newspaper, poster, class assignment, magazine - describe it and discuss it in your journal. If you overhear or participate in a conversation that is intellectually or spiritually stimulating, recount it in your journal. Keep the journal in mind as you encounter or engage in activities such as TV, movies, sports, music, theater, friends, religious practices, ads, travel, CAS activities, viewing art, or classes other than TOK.

Here are a few suggestions to help you select topics for journal discussion.

- ❖ Find instances of logical or informal fallacies occurring around you.
- ❖ Be aware of times when your sense perceptions influence your reactions to your environment.
- ❖ Note arguments that occur because people define their terms differently.
- ❖ Think of current events from a TOK framework. What are the issues that divide different groups of people? Who has truth and right on their side? Find related newspaper clippings.
- ❖ Take your journal to other classes and record TOK related issues. Look for connections or discrepancies between or among disciplines.
- ❖ Visit museums and describe what catches your eye. Aesthetically what did you find pleasing and why? What, to you, is good art, literature, music, architecture, dance, poetry, etc.?