

## Blog Assignment (300 points)

Your requirements are to publish, at minimum, **eight edited, well-developed blog entries** discussing any topic you wish. Other members of the class and I will have the ability to read your entries, but the blogs are private and closed to the rest of the world (wide web).

In addition to publishing your own entries, you should respond to your classmates' blog entries. These responses will be briefer than your own entries, but they will require you to read others' ideas. (Please keep a record of the entries to which you respond to eliminate confusion later.) You should post **ten comments for various classmates**.

Please do not post anything that you've written for another assignment; this is meant to be an opportunity for growth. I hope that the blogs will promote fluency and give you the freedom to experiment with different forms and methods of writing. They should continue to help you build your voice and give you an opportunity to express your opinions, your joys, and your frustrations. You will be able to post on your own schedule (though I do expect you to post semi-regularly).

The length of each blog will vary, but you'll need to post at least **2100 words of text**.<sup>1</sup> I will score your responses as a completion grade, as long as they show sincere and thoughtful responses to your peers' writing.

	<b>A 45-50</b>	<b>B 40-44</b>	<b>C 35-39</b>	<b>D 30-34</b>	<b>F 0-29</b>
<b>Frequency<sup>2</sup></b>	The student posts weekly.	The student posts almost weekly.	The student posts bi-weekly.	The student posts intermittently through the nine weeks.	The student fails to post regularly.
<b>Content</b>	The blog entries are genuine, thoughtful reflections on topics both large and small. They reveal something of the writer and his/her opinions.	The blog entries are thoughtful reflections on topics both large and small. They begin to reveal something of the writer and his/her opinions.	The blog entries are reflections on topics both large and small. They reveal a bit about the writer and his/her opinions.	The blog entries are only surface considerations of topics; they fall short of revelations about the writer and his/her opinions.	The blog entries fail to consider topics in any sort of thoughtful way; they do not reveal anything about the writer and his/her opinions.
<b>Writing</b>	Each blog features a thoughtfully selected, creative style that is appropriate for its subject.	Each blog features a thoughtfully selected style that is appropriate for its subject.	Each blog features a style that is appropriate for its subject.	The blogs feature a style that is not entirely appropriate for the subject.	The blogs' style is completely inappropriate to the subject.
<b>Voice</b>	As a whole, the blogs reveal a consistent voice and show that the author is developing a distinctive style.	As a whole, the blogs reveal a developing voice.	In places, the blogs reveal the author's developing voice.	The blogs reveal little evidence that the author is developing a voice.	The blogs reveal no evidence of a consistent voice.
<b>Conventions</b>	The author follows the grammar and usage conventions. Each blog provides evidence of careful and thoughtful editing.	The author follows the grammar and usage conventions. Each blog provides evidence of careful editing.	The blogs show only minor issues with adherence to grammar and usage conventions.	The blogs feature problems with grammar and usage conventions that begin to affect the enjoyment of the entries.	The blogs show little or no evidence of editing.

<sup>1</sup> This is the first thing that I will change next year: no word requirement.

<sup>2</sup> Item #2 that I'll be changing—this wasn't overly effective this year. Students who would have posted regularly anyway did so; those who procrastinated STILL procrastinated.