

SCOOP DU JOUR

What's a journal? It's just a very personal essay that you write every day. It tells some things that happened to you each day and how you feel about them. (Perhaps you call it a diary.)

Make up a list of things that happened to you recently. Then tell how you felt about them.

HAPPENING

YOUR FEELING

Examples: I missed the school bus.

I hated to go and tell my dad.

I made the swim team.

I was excited, and felt as if I were going off the high diving board!

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

- _____
- _____
- _____

Think back over yesterday. List three things that happened.

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____



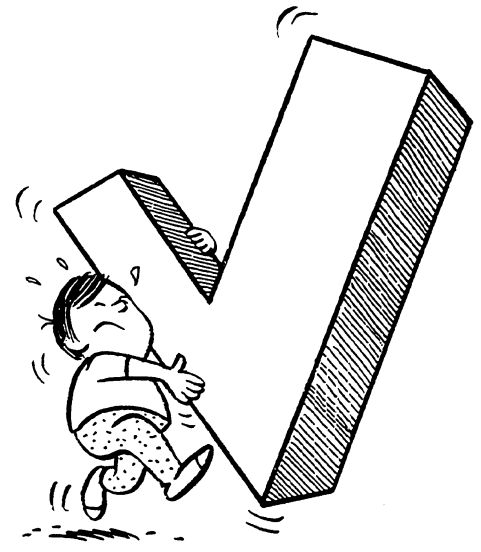
Pick the one that made you have the most intense feelings. Write about it, giving more details and telling your feelings. Remember, your feelings and opinions are very important in an essay.

- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____

THE ESSENCE OF ESSAYS

Tick (✓) the items that you think apply to essays:

- _____ 1. Essays are written in high school.
- _____ 2. Essays are long.
- _____ 3. Essays are about serious topics.
- _____ 4. Essays describe what another person thinks.
- _____ 5. Each essay covers many topics.



Score yourself (20% for each one correctly checked or left blank):

- 1. They are written in high school and upper primary school. They are also written in universities and colleges and by persons no longer in school.
- _____ 2. No tick here, please. Essays are short!
- 3. They are about serious topics and *also* light and funny topics.
- _____ 4. No tick here, please. They are about what *you*, the writer thinks.
- _____ 5. No tick here, please. Each essay covers *one* main topic.

Take one more look at the five items and then complete this sentence:

An essay is _____

That wasn't so bad, was it? Did you write something like this:

An essay is a short piece of writing on one topic, giving the thoughts of the writer.

Look up the meaning of essay in the dictionary. Write the dictionary definition.

Did you find that *essay* also means *to try*?

Let's essay to write essays!

Remember: Essays are short, personal, on one topic.

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