

Name _____

Journal Entry #10: “An Exercise in Imitation, Part II”

Using the following sentences from Dr. King’s “Letter” and “I Have a Dream” as models, write your own sentence directly underneath. (One sentence is fine.) Imitate, as closely as possible, King’s sentence structures and style (including things like his use of alliteration in “content of their character,” for instance). You may find it easier to use a pencil instead of a pen. Bonus point (or points, depending on the quality of your sentences) if all of your sentences focus on the same topic, no matter how serious or silly.

Examples:

As the weeks and months went by, we realized that we were the victims of a broken promise. A few signs, briefly removed, returned; the others remained.

When the teachers and students finished reading, they acknowledged that she was a writer with real talent. Her brilliance, naturally acquired, appeared; her weaknesses evaporated.

Mindful of the difficulties involved, we decided to undertake a process of self-purification.

Suspicious of the explanation offered, she chose to re-examine the findings of the committee.

Models to Imitate:

(1) The other, Jesus Christ, was an extremist for love, truth and goodness, and thereby rose above his environment. Perhaps the South, the nation, and the world are in dire need of creative extremists.

(2) This note was the promise that all men, yes, black men as well as white men, would be guaranteed the unalienable rights of life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness.

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(3) Instead of honoring this sacred obligation, America has given the Negro people a bad check, a check which has come back marked "insufficient funds."

(4) We can never be satisfied as long as our bodies, heavy with fatigue of travel, cannot gain lodging in the motels of the highways and the hotels of the cities.

(5) I have a dream my four children will one day live in a nation where they will not be judged by the color of their skin but by the content of their character.

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