Junior High Blogging Assignment

This semester you will be creating a blog. A blog is kind of like an online journal that other people can read. Some people create blogs that are public and some create blogs that are private. For this assignment, your blog will be readable by me and by other people in 8th Grade only.

Most blogs have some sort of topic or focus. Some people write about cooking or books they are reading. Many people choose some sort of “adventure” or “challenge” and blog about it. For example, someone might decide to become a vegetarian and blog about how it affects their life. A junior high student might decide to turn in all of their homework on time or attempt to keep their room clean and blog about it.

You will shape your blog by choosing a topic from the Blog Prompt List each day that we blog. You also always have the option of free writing on whatever topic you choose. Keep in mind that other students in eighth grade will be able to read your blog and comment on it.

\*\*\* Each blog should be at least 200 words\*\*\*

Blogs 30pts each

 Content/ length (10)

 Six Traits Focus (10)

 Conventions (5)

 Participation (5)

Comments 5 pts each

\*\* You must leave at least three thoughtful comments every other week

Blog Prompts

**\*\*Reminder: Don’t be afraid to write what you really think, but remember, everyone in 8th Grade CAN read your blog\*\***

#1: Write about your family. Who are the members of your family? Who is your favorite person to be with? Who do you have a hard time getting along with? Why? Who do you admire most in your family? Who are you most like? Who are the most different from? Who do you wish you could spend more time with?

#2: Write about your favorite sport. What is it? What do you like about it? How long have you been participating in this sport? What is challenging about it? Is there a favorite coach that you have had over the years? What is practice like? Describe a game. Is there a special memory that you have from a game? A practice? A bus ride?

#3: Write about your house. What does it look like? Where is it? What do you like about it? What would you change if you could? What is your favorite room in the house? What is your least favorite room? Does your house have specific feeling or aroma (good smell) when you walk in? Describe your bedroom.

#4: Write about your free time. What do you like to do in your free time? Do you have any hobbies, activities, etc. that you like to do in your free time? Do you think you have too much free time? Too little? Why? What would you do if you had a whole year off of school?

#5: Write about school. What is your favorite class/ teacher? Why? What is your least favorite class/teacher? What do you like about school? What don’t you like about school? How do you feel about lunch? What do you do during study hall/ advisory? If you could change something about school what would it be? Why?

**More blog topics on the back….**

#6: Write about your favorite book or books. What is the title? Who is this book by? Why is this book your favorite book? Who is your favorite character in the book? Which character do you think you are most like? Who could you learn the most from? Which character would you like to be if you could? Have you read any other books by this author? Has this book been made into a movie? Have you seen the movie? Was it as good as the book?

\*\*This blog prompt may be repeated as long as the book is different.

#7: Write about music. What kind of music do you like to listen to? What kind of music do you like the least? Who is your favorite singer? What is your favorite song? Do you play a musical instrument? What is it? When did you learn how to play it? Is there an instrument that you would like to learn to play? Why? If you could form your own band what would it be called? What kind of music would you play? Who would be in your band?

#8: Write about a current event. What caught your eye in the news on TV or on the newspaper or on the internet? Why did this catch your eye? Describe the story. How did the story make you feel? Is there something that this story makes you want to do or become involved in? What is your opinion of the story? Do you think the story was well written? Why or why not?

\*\*This blog topic may be repeated as long as the current event is different.

#9: Write about the future. What do you want to be when you grow up? Why did you choose this career? How long have you wanted to do this? What type of schooling/ special skills do you need to do this job? Do you want to get married? Have kids? How many? What do you think the world will be like in 10-15 years when you are an adult? What do you think will be better about it? What do you think will the problems? What do you hope will be different?

#10: Freewrite on whatever topic you want. Make sure that it is school appropriate. Make sure that you pick a topic you can write 200 words on. \*\*This blog prompt may be repeated as many times as you wish.

Blog Rubric

\*\* Reminder: You MUST turn in one of these rubric sheets each time you complete a blog.

How to write your blog:

1. Go to the school website (www.tekamah.esu2.org). Then to “Teacher Links.” Then to “Mrs. Heaton’s Website.”
2. Click on the “Links” tab
3. Click on Mrs. Heaton’s Eighth Grade Blog
4. Click Log in (upper right)
5. Find your name under username
6. Enter your password (unless you have changed it, it is **tigers2015)**
7. Click on New Blog
8. Type your blog- don’t forget a title
9. When done, click “Submit for Review.” Once I have read and approved your blog, it will show up for everyone in 8th Grade to read.

Fill out the following information when you are done writing your blog and hand this paper in.

\*\*All new blogs are due on Monday

Name \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Period \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Blog Topic \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Blog Title \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

I will fill out the following grading rubric. You can see your grade when I hand this back to you.

Blog 30pts

 Content/ length (12)

Six Traits Focus (8)

 Conventions(5)

 Participation (5)