

LEARNING LOGS:

You may replace one set of Cornell Notes with a Learning Log

Writing About the News: Part of what makes one literate is being aware of what is happening in the world. Choose an event unfolding in the media that is related to what is being studied in class.

- 1) Describe the event in detail.
- 2) What classroom topic does the event relate to and why?
- 3) What are your personal feelings about the event?
- 4) Why does this event interest you?
- 5) What do you predict will be the outcome of this event? Why?

Life Application: Apply the concepts you learned in class today to your life. How do they affect your everyday being? What would happen if they suddenly changed or ceased to exist? Example topics might be: gravity, democracy, a written language, multiplication, the calculator, and so on.

Creative Solutions: You can be creative. Take a real-world problem that relates to what is being studied in class (e.g., air pollution, global warming, trash) and come up with creative solutions for this problem. Allow your solutions to be outlandish and unrealistic. Real solutions have often arisen from activities similar to this one.

Writing About Mathematics: Write a letter to another student in the tutorial group explaining, in detail, how to do a math problem that you are studying. Writing about math will force you to slow down and think carefully about the process that you go through in learning a math concept or solving a math problem. You must use very precise language in your explanation or the person who receives your letter might not understand what you are explaining.

Writing About Social Studies:

"You Are There" Scenes: Place yourself within a historical period or event that you are studying and write about it from the point of view of someone who is there. In your response, focus on: "What," "Who," "Why," "How," and "What If." Share and discuss your responses with other members of the class or in your tutorial group.

Dialogues: Write a dialogue between yourself and a person in history, or alternatively, between two characters in a story or novel that you are studying. Again, in your response, focus on: "What," "Who," "Why," "How," and "What If."

Focused Writing: Write nonstop for 5 to 10 minutes on a specific topic that you are studying (e.g., a scientific process, a play, or a historical event). The purpose of focused writing is for you

to find out what you know about the topic, to explore new ideas, and to find out what you still need to learn about the topic.