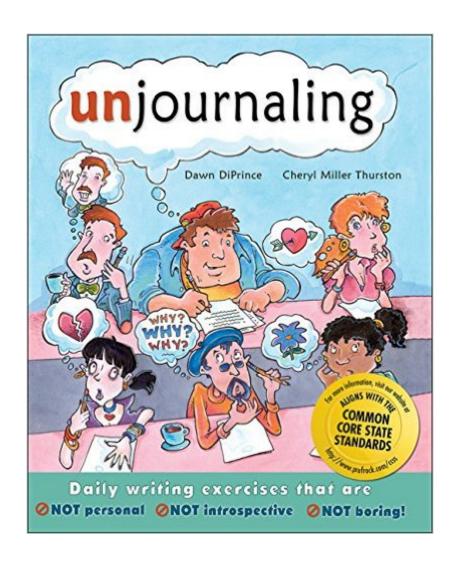
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Unjournaling: Daily Writing Exercises That Are Not Personal, Not Introspective, Not Boring!





Synopsis

Some people just don't want to share intimate details about their thoughts, feelings, and livesâ "at least not with others in a class or group. That's where UnJournaling comes in. All the writing prompts in this book are entirely impersonal but completely engagingâ "for both kids and adults. Just a couple of examples of the 200 writing prompts on widely varied topics: Write a paragraph about a girl named Dot, but use no letters with a dot (in other words, no i or j). Why on earth would Yankee Doodle stick a feather in his cap and call it "macaroni"? Come up with a plausible explanation. The book includes sample responses to all of the questionsâ "a helpful tool for anyone who gets stuck with a topic and wants to see that it can be done!

Book Information

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Arts & Photography

Age Range: 12 - 17 years

Grade Level: 7 - 12

Customer Reviews

Writing and reading came to me about as naturally as breathing. Even as a child I read books the way other people eat popcorn, and when I was about 8 a family friend had a tee-shirt made for me that said "I'd rather be writing my novel" (actually, I had the plots for THREE different novels going before I was 10). Therefore, I sometimes struggle to teach writing BECAUSE it came so natural to me. Want me to write somethin'? Sure! Like Ishmael I cry "Get me a condor's quill! Get me Vesuvius' crater for an inkwell! Friends, hold my arms!"Until I remember that there are a great deal of students at every level of education who struggle with writing for various reasons: it's boring, it's

too tedious and confusing to create and then animate characters, English grammar is boring and difficult, or--as Ms. DiPrince and Ms. Thurston point out in the introduction to "UnJournaling"--it's too personal. Actually, I hadn't thought about that last one. Not everyone is comfortable sharing details about their lives with classmates or teachers, and yet that's one of the most popular writing genres out there: "tell me a story about a time when..."That's where UnJournaling comes in. With 200 different prompts, excercises and story starters, none of which are personal, even the most reluctant writers can be drawn out of their shell. What's more, these aren't all just some story starter ideas, most are downright challenging, starting right off with #1: "write a paragraph about a girl named Dot, but use no letters with dots (i, j)" and moving right into #49 "you can use 25 words--no more--for a billboard advertising a product called `Zebra Wink'. Sell your product with those 25 words."The authors are clever.

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