Character Journal Assignment and Rubric

In the first portion of this assignment, you should answer each of the questions about YOURSELF in 1-3 sentences. You should only spend 10-15 minutes on this. It is due the next time we meet in class.

The second portion of this assignment will be due on the final performance day. You will need to thoughtfully answer each of the questions about your CHARACTER. This time it is required of you to answer each question with a substantial paragraph, using supporting examples from the script.

Remember our class discussion about character traits and circumstances as you complete the assignment. A rubric is attached showing how your final character journal will be graded. For each of the questions below, a starting point taken from Uta Hagen’s book, *Respect For Acting* is provided for you as inspiration.

Questions

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Who am I? | Character. |
| What time is it? | Century, year, season, day, minute. |
| Where am I? | Country, city, neighborhood, house, room, area of room. |
| What surrounds me? | Animate and inanimate objects. |
| What are the given circumstances? | Past, present, future, and the events. |
| What is my relationship? | Relation to total events, to other characters, and to things. |
| What do I want? | Character, main and immediate objectives. |
| What’s in my way? | Obstacles. |
| What do I do to get what I want? | The action: physical, verbal. |

Rubric

Your practice journal will be graded strictly for completion, basically a “pass or fail” grade. Use the rubric below wisely for expectations regarding the character journal due on final performance day.

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | Accomplished (45-50 points) | Capable (40-44 points) | Developing (35-39 points) | Unacceptable (0-34 points) |
| Completion | Thoroughly answers all of the questions | Thoroughly answers most of the questions | Partially answers most of the questions | Answers to questions are incomplete or missing |
| Supporting Evidence | Consistently uses examples from the script in answers | Frequently uses examples from the script in answers | Sometimes uses examples from the script in answers | Never uses examples from the script in answers |
| Quality | Answers are exceptionally clear; they are thoughtful and easy to follow | Answers are generally clear; they are occasionally thoughtful | Answers lack clarity; they are difficult to follow | Answers are unclear; they are impossible to follow |