

## Today's Journal Assignment

Oct 01, 2008

**Reflect** about the following questions in your Journal. Please title the entry:

### 10.01.08 Habits of Mind

Important note: A **reflection** is a thoughtful response to a focus question. If depth of thought is not evident in your answer you will not receive credit for this assignment. You should think before you write, give examples whenever possible, and explain your thinking to the best of your ability. The opinion you are being asked isn't formed from out of the blue, so explain your answers as though you are being interviewed. Pretend that you are on a talk show and elaborate with detail. This journal is not a diary, but it is the parallel component of your life at school. If you are not sure if your answer is detailed enough, then write MORE! Even though this is *your* journal, I still must read it, so please refrain from major use of abbreviation. You may use abbreviations like **w/** for with and **b/c** for because, but please DO NOT abbreviate using **txt msg** slang! Lol ☺



**INTRODUCTION\***: The following characteristics are known as the “Habits of Mind.”<sup>1</sup> These are characteristic habits that scholars use to seek out answers to problems when they don't immediately know what the answer is or if they don't know what to do. These are the scholarly habits that we will practice during this school year in addition to critical thinking, because simply becoming great critical thinkers will only get us so far.

### HABITS OF MIND

The following comprise the habits of mind:

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|--|--|
| 1. Persisting                                | 9. Thinking & Communicating with Clarity & Precision |
| 2. Managing Impulsivity                      | 10. Gathering Data through All Senses                |
| 3. Listening with Understanding & Empathy    | 11. Creating, Imagining, Innovating                  |
| 4. Thinking Flexibly                         | 12. Responding with Wonderment & Awe                 |
| 5. Thinking About Thinking (Metacognition)   | 13. Taking Responsible Risks                         |
| 6. Striving for Accuracy                     | 14. Finding Humor                                    |
| 7. Questioning & Posing Problems             | 15. Thinking Interdependently                        |
| 8. Applying Past Knowledge to New Situations | 16. Remaining Open to Continuous Learning            |

### ASSIGNMENT:

1. Read the brief INTRODUCTION\* for Habits of Mind and then read each Habit of Mind listed.
2. For all 16, write a brief description about what you think each might mean.
3. Select FIVE Habits and **reflect** upon (see above for definition of **reflect**) how you have already used these in Honors Chem class so far this year by writing a journal entry about each of the five Habits you selected. Make sure to identify which Habit you are writing about and give examples how you have used this Habit in this class.
4. Next, select TWO Habits that you think you might need to work on and **reflect** upon on how you will attempt to work on these habits by writing a journal entry on each of the two Habits you selected. Identify the Habit and give examples in what way you lack the behavior or ways in which you plan on improving in this regard.
5. Finally, identify, **with examples**, TWO Habits that were used *effectively* during your recent group work on ChemActivity2. Then identify TWO Habits that were NOT used effectively during your recent group work on ChemActivity2 and cite ways you think you/your group could improve in these arenas.

<sup>1</sup> [www.ascd.org/cms/objectlib/ascdframeset/index.cfm?publication=http://www.ascd.org/ed\\_topics/2000costa/2000costatoc.html](http://www.ascd.org/cms/objectlib/ascdframeset/index.cfm?publication=http://www.ascd.org/ed_topics/2000costa/2000costatoc.html)