

Freedom Writers Diary
Summer Reading Assignment
Extra Credit
English 10 Standard

1. Identify the setting of *The Freedom Writers Diary*
Name of school _____
City/Location _____
2. Identify the name of the author/teacher of the Freedom Writers _____
3. What is the name that MTV dubs Long Beach? _____.
4. What is a disciplinary transfer?
5. What SPECIFIC incident triggered the teacher to ditch her carefully prepared lesson plans and focus on tolerance lessons?
6. The teacher compared a racial slur to what specific historical event?
7. Identify 3 ways in which the teacher brings history to life?
8. How does the teacher fund her extracurricular events?
9. Describe the initial impression of the teacher by students and explain their reaction to her.
10. Describe the initial reaction of the “rich, white boy” to a racially mixed class in which he was the minority.
11. Describe the differences between tagging and graffiti.
12. Explain the baptism into a gang (**specifically**). Illustrate examples of this process from the diary entries.
13. What is dyslexia?
14. How (**specifically**) did the dyslexic Freedom Writer begin to recognize his self worth and value?
15. What is Proposition 187?
16. What is the student’s personal reaction to Proposition 187?
17. Describe the stigma of being a “schoolboy.”
18. Describe the “Peanut Game.” How it played and what is its significance?
19. Who is Zlata Filipovic? Where is Zlata from?
20. Identify the role of the “Dream Team Moms.”
21. Describe the passports (admittance) that one receives to the “Museum of Tolerance.”
22. What is “Schindler’s List?”
23. What happened to the African American girl, Joyce, when she asked her English teacher why the class reading list did not include black authors?
24. In Diary 15, the teacher inquires about the ideas of rivalries. Describe the verbal “showdown” between the Freedom Writer and the teacher. During a discussion of “Romeo and Juliet” she asks the student “Do you think this family feud is stupid?” How does the student respond? Explain the significance of wearing the “Star of David” during the Gestapo regime.
25. The Freedom Writer compares a historical Los Angeles event to Zlata’s War experience. Identify the event and explain the outcome of that event?