

Samples of “A” Journal Entries

Student Sample 1

September 16, 1997 (2 hours today)

Today I met with my mentor for about an hour. My mentor is a mechanic who specializes in Ford engines. I told him about my plan to rebuild my '67 Mustang engine and put it in my car. I told him what I think the problems are, which are that the block is cracked, the engine needs new heads and pistons, and the carburetor is damaged and needs new parts. My mentor agreed to come and take a look at the engine next week on Wednesday so that we can determine if there is anything else that is wrong and figure out approximately how much this is going to cost me. The second hour I spent working on my proposal. I'm having trouble deciding how I am going to research engines and exactly what I need to learn to complete this project. I also typed my goal statement so I can show it to my teacher tomorrow. I hope she approves it!

Total hours so far: 5

Student Sample 2

September 17, 1997 (1 hour today)

Today I worked on my engine for an hour (and spent another hour on the phone!). I took the spark plug wires and distributor cap off my engine. The problem was, I didn't mark which wire was which, and if you don't do that you don't know where each wire should go when you put the engine back together. I had to call the Ford dealer to find out the firing order for a '67 Mustang, and then I went back and carefully labeled each wire. From now on I will mark each part as I pull it off the engine, because in the long run it will save me a lot of time and frustration.

Total hours thus far: 6