

Thought of the Day Grading Guidelines

Each day upon entering please copy the thought of the day. You will be required to respond to TWO thoughts of the day each week. However, you must right each TOTD down regardless of whether you choose to write on that thought. For instance, if we have four different TOTDs, you will write thoroughly on two and simply copy the quote on the other two. On Tuesday of every week, your TOTDs will be due.

Each of your thought of the days will receive one of the following grades.

- 50- Quote provided. Understanding of quote demonstrated. Well explained. Relevance to today demonstrated. Examples provided. Clear and understandable. Grammatically correct.
- 40- Quote provided. Understanding of quote demonstrated. Well explained. Attempt at relevance to today . Some examples provided. Clear and understandable. Grammatically correct.
- 30- Quote provided. Demonstrates less understanding of the quote. Some explanation provided. Attempt at making relevance to today. Somewhat unclear.
- 20- Quote provided. Minimal understanding of quote demonstrated. Lacks depth. No examples of current relevance provided. Unclear.
- 10- Quote provided with small effort at explaining the quote. No relevance shown. Unclear.
- 0- Quote provided.

There should only be one thought of the day on each side of the paper. Please understand, simply restating the quote in the author's terms is not explaining it. You must dig deeper.

You are looking to make connections between the quote, our lessons, and events occurring in our society today.

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“There isn’t a single human characteristic that can be safely labeled “American”.”

-Mark Twain

America is known as a nation of immigrants. The population is made up of individuals whose ancestors originate from countries from all over the world. Therefore, it is impossible to characterize any physical attribute as solely American. The current census suggests just this point. We have a number of nationalities, races, and ethnic groups within our country. We live in different climates within the country and speak with different accents.

However, what can be labeled as “American” is the belief we have in the American way. That American way includes our belief in equality, freedom, democracy, liberty, justice, tolerance, diversity, and the rule of law. These ideals are what brought many immigrants to America and is why most of the people have remained in America.