

Tuesdays With Morrie

Journal Entries

Even though Mitch Albom lost touch with Morrie, he was reunited for one last special class on living a meaningful life. Through Tuesdays With Morrie, Morrie teaches his students, the readers, how to live by helping them see that it is what they do with their lives that is important. Throughout your reading of the work, maintain a journal of your thoughts and use each of the following prompts to ponder the lessons Morrie teaches.

Journal entries will be graded randomly for correct usage of the English language as well as specific, thoughtful responses. Do not make general statements; explain exactly how each topic relates to YOU, not people in general. For this reason, you may use the personal pronouns “I,” “me,” “my,” and “myself.” You may also use linking verbs.

All entries should be typed according to MLA format. Use the journal entry title and number as your title in the heading.

1. “The Curriculum”

How is life like a classroom? Describe a moment in your own life when you learned something valuable outside the “classroom.”

2. “The Student”

Describe a life-changing moment for you.

3. “The Audiovisual”

Choose one of Morrie’s aphorisms on page 18 and explain how you can apply it to your own life.

4. “The Orientation”

Write about a good “teacher” you had. Explain what made him/her exceptional.

5. “The Classroom”

Morrie’s “tensions of opposites”: “Life is a series of pulls back and forth. You want to do one thing, but you are bound to do something else. Something hurts you, yet you know it shouldn’t. You take certain things for granted, even when you know you should never take anything for granted.” Identify and explain tensions of opposites in your own life.

6. “Taking Attendance”

“The way you get meaning into your life is to devote yourself to loving others, devote yourself to your community around you and devote yourself to creating something that gives you purpose and meaning.” Taking this aphorism into consideration within your own life, to what could you, personally, devote yourself in order to get meaning into your life.

7. “The First Tuesday” (the world)

Explain why you are more comfortable with silence or noise. What could we learn from silence or from quieting “noise”? How might these lessons teach Morrie’s belief that “the most important thing in life is to learn how to give love out and to let love come in”?

8. “Second Tuesday” (feeling sorry for yourself)

“Sometimes you cannot believe what you see, you have to believe what you feel.” Explain your feelings about this belief of Morrie’s and why you agree or disagree.

9. “Third Tuesday” (regrets)

Which topic of discussion from the list that Mitch makes on page 66 is most important? Explain why.

Explain what you most regret.

10. “The Audiovisual-Part 2”

What bodily function would you most dread losing? Explain why.

11. “Fourth Tuesday” (death)

Explain Morrie’s statement “Learn how to die, and you learn how to live.”

12. “Fifth Tuesday” (family)

In what ways is your family important to you?

13. “Sixth Tuesday” (emotions)

If you could be reincarnated as any animal, what you choose and why?

14. “Seventh Tuesday” (fear of aging)

Look up the word compassion in the dictionary and write its meaning. Why is compassion so important?

15. “Eighth Tuesday” (money)

Explain your interpretation of the quote from Ghandi on page 129.

16. "Ninth Tuesday" (how love goes on)

How do you hope to die?

17. "Tenth Tuesday" (marriage)

Think of a dating couple in our age range (it may be you and your significant other).

Explain how you/they follow the "rules" of marriage that Morrie mentions on page 149?

Explain how their (not) doing so might account for the happiness/quality of the relationship. Explain what you consider a good age for marriage.

18. "Eleventh Tuesday" (our culture)

We are all guilty of what Morrie explains as allowing our culture to choose our values and/or determine our thinking. Give an example of this in your own life and explain whether or not you could change it.

19. "The Audiovisual – Part 3"

What does "living" mean to you?

20. "The Twelfth Tuesday" (forgiveness)

How can you specifically apply Morrie's concept of forgiveness to yourself?

21. "The Thirteenth Tuesday" (the perfect day)

What is a perfect day to you?

22. "Conclusion"

How have **YOU** benefitted from Morrie Schwartz?