**Identity Journals**

**Expectations & Example**

* Labeled (Journal # & title)
* Pen
* Double-spaced
* Min. 1page (200+ words)
* Multi-paragraph (3+)
* Good discussion of topic

**Topic:** **Journal #2 – Discuss how your sex/gender impacts your identity**

**Structure:**

1. **Introduction –**
   * + Discuss the topic generally (ex. gender/sex – what it is, how society sees it)
     + Lead to your thesis statement– specifically what are you going to discuss (subject & points)

**Example**: (Please note that this example is **much longer** (500 words) than what is required)

A person’s gender or sex can greatly influence someone’s life. In history women have been treated differently than men and men held all the power. They were not allowed to vote, own property, or even have certain jobs. Today things have changed quite a bit, but gender or sex can still be an issue.  *I am a woman and female and this has influenced my identity in several ways from how others see and treat me to how I see myself. (Thesis statement – subject & points)*

1. **Body**
   * + Discuss your ideas – state your first idea or point (topic sentence)
     + After your point provide supporting details – examples & reasons
     + Supporting details should be SPECIFIC to YOU and YOUR life
     + Follow the ideas you stated in your thesis in the same order as your points in your thesis.

**Example:**

In my life, because I am a girl, *(point 1)* I know I am seen and have been treated differently than boys. *(supporting details)* When I was 9, my parents got me playing soccer. I really enjoyed it and wanted to play with the other kids at lunchtime. What I didn’t notice was that all the other kids were boys. When my girl friend and I tried to play, we had a really hard time. The boys made fun of us and if we made a little mistake they made a huge deal out of it. It took time and some injuries, but eventually they accepted us. *(point 2)* I also know society expects me to act a certain way because I’m a woman. *(supporting details)* I don’t wear heals or have long hair. I don’t care about shoes, shopping, or purses and I would rather discuss politics than fashion. I have an opinion about things and am not afraid to speak them. This isn’t what society believes a woman should be like. It’s not attractive or preferred. Because of this I have been called many things including pushy, opinionated, tomboy, and even a bitch. I am not doing anything wrong or anything a man wouldn’t do, but simply because I am a woman, it’s not okay. All of this used to bother me a lot. *(point 3)* It frustrated me that because of something I didn’t choose, I was been held back. *(supporting details)*  Now though I appreciate being a woman. I know it’s made me stronger. As a teacher, I am very conscious of my role and I try my best to show students, both boys and girls, that woman can do anything. I coached boys’ soccer here for 8 years and took a fair amount of abuse from both student players and teachers, but I did it to show others that a woman can play and coach sports and do well – we won the City Championships once and made the playoffs almost every year.

1. **Conclusion:**
   * + Sum up your main ideas in a new way – don’t repeat
     + Connect back to your intro
     + Leave your reader thinking

**Example:**

Gender or sex is one of those things you don’t get to choose about yourself, but it does make a difference in your life. In my life, I’ve been judged because of it, but it has only made me stronger. Things have changed in history and maybe in the future it won’t be something that matters at all.