

## Edmodo for In-Class Journaling

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I mainly use EdModo as a replacement for in class journaling. I typically post a writing challenge on Sunday afternoons. The challenges are due the following Thursday. They range from short paragraphs to longer responses, up to three paragraphs.

This year, I made the first few writing challenges all expository prompts: what's your favorite place to be, what's something you are good at and how did you get good at it, etc. This allowed me to learn about my students' personal lives. When I graded them, I was sure to stay positive but also offer some areas for improvement.

As the year has progressed, the challenges have become more formal and less journal like. Students have been more willing to try because of that early success and fun we had. Most importantly, I have managed to have students write at least 40 more paragraphs using EdModo than otherwise possible--that's eight more 5-paragraph essays! I also find my feedback has improved since I can type really quick responses.