

Ethnographic Journal Prompts

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1. Record what you observe or hear about yourself, others around you, your culture, your country, your world.
2. Imagine yourself as a live video, recording holistically all the details of people in their context.
3. Answer the reason why what you see and hear is happening. How does it relate to the goals of anthropology? Analyze behavior, environment, social structure, personality, and context.
4. Choose any topic that relates to the human condition: your date, the cafeteria environment, the news, your class, your church, anything at all that is of interest.
5. Be reflexive, comparing your behavior with those around you, and examining the factors contributing to your actions and “being.”
6. Any style is acceptable as long as it is descriptive and hermeneutical (examining meaning), and reflexive.