**Notebook Entries for *Tuesdays with Morrie***

April 30

In your notebook, plan your own “Life Celebration.”

(You can focus on your whole life from birth, or on your school days since kindergarten, or even just on high school.)

* Who should attend?
* Where would this event be held?
* What music would be played?
* How would you decorate?
* Would there be food?
* What is the program? Who would speak?

What would they talk about? What are the most important memories to share?

May 4

Part A:

Morrie uses the phrases “the tensions of opposites.” What types of oppositions have you seen portrayed in this book so far? What tensions of opposition do we experience in our lives? Make a list.

Part B:

Morrie Schwartz said, “You have to be strong enough to say if the culture doesn’t work, don’t buy it.” Mitch Albom describes how Morrie practiced what he preached and developed his own culture: “a cocoon of human activities—conversation, interaction, affection.”

As you look ahead at your future, what do you want for your life’s culture? What activities and relationships do you want to make important to you?

May 6

Begin a list of aphorisms from *Tuesdays with Morrie.* As we read, continue to add other aphorisms you come across and/or aphorisms you find important in your own life.

May 8

Part A:

Quickwrite for 5 minutes about either one (or both) of these questions:

* What things do you take for granted?
* What if today was your last day on earth? What do you still need to do?

Part B:

Who is your family?

* Past—How have you been shaped by your family of origin?
* Present—Who in your life now do you consider family?
* Future—What do you want your family to be like when you “grow up”?

Part C:

Write about emotions:

* Are you an emotional person?
* Are your emotions good or bad? Or both? What makes the difference?
* What do you think about Morrie’s approach to emotion—to soak emotions in and then detach from them?

May 12

Part A:

Write about growing up:

What things make someone an adult? What things do you look forward to about adulthood? Are there ways in which you would like to remain a child?

Write about aging:

At what age are you officially “old”? What scares you most about growing “old”? Do you look forward to any part of aging?

Part B:

What “earlier selves” are inside you? Make a list.

May 14

Part A:

What do you have to offer people?

Part B:

Write about marriage:

* Who is your role model for marriage, either good or bad?
* Do you plan to get married? If not, why? If so, what kind of person do you want to marry?

Part C:

In small groups, read through p. 163.

Pick an idea or theme that interests you. Discuss what question you could ask about this idea to promote self-reflection.

In your notebook, articulate the question and spend 5 minutes writing about it.