

Creating Change Today Answer Key

Strong journal entries should include:

- A clear description of a **current issue** or **personal experience**.
- A thoughtful **connection to Dr. King's values or actions** (e.g., nonviolence, equality, speaking truth to power).
- Evidence of **personal reflection** and emotional or ethical insight.
- A closing idea that shows understanding of **how justice requires continued effort today**.

Teacher's Guide

- Begin by reading a short Dr. King quote such as *"Injustice anywhere is a threat to justice everywhere."* Ask students to share what it means to them before writing.
- Provide examples of current topics students can connect with, from local school issues to global movements.
- Encourage honest, personal writing-there are no wrong answers, only thoughtful reflections.

Differentiation:

- *Grades 7-8:* Offer guided prompts like "A time I saw someone stand up for fairness was..." or "Dr. King would say this issue matters because...".
- *Grades 9-10:* Challenge students to connect their reflection to a modern news story or community project.
- *Grades 11-12:* Ask for deeper critical thinking-how might Dr. King's strategies of peace and dialogue work in today's world of social media and activism?

Engagement Ideas:

- Turn the journal entries into a **Justice Wall**, displaying anonymous student excerpts that highlight diverse perspectives.
- Allow a **"read and reflect" circle**, where volunteers share parts of their writing aloud to inspire discussion.