FREE THOUGHT

1. You have 15 minutes. Pick one of the starters below and write what comes to mind. Don't think, just write.

- Listen.
- Stand still.
- Every _____ has a beginning.

2. Write down the first words that come to mind for each of the first letters of the colors of the rainbow:

R—O—Y—G—B—I—V

Use those words in a piece that begins: I was told that life with me was...

3. Spend seven minutes listing things that make you laugh or smile for no reason at all. Now randomly pick one and expand on it.

4. Spend 12 minutes describing a favorite scene in a book or movie, or a favorite image from lines in a song you love.

5. Write a poem in ten words, then rearrange the words and see how many poems you can come up with.

6. Look around you and write down ten things you see or descriptors of your surroundings. Use those words in a hundred-word piece about arguments.

7. Take ten minutes to write about jellybeans. Don't think, just write.

8. You were asked by the National Dictionary Society to add five new words to the New World Dictionary. Create those words and their definitions. Now use them in a short poem about yesterday's weather.

9. You were given a tin can with five odd items in it: a plastic compass, a mini padlock, a AA battery, a pink feather and a foreign coin. Use them to write a personal ad for someone you have never met.

10. In cleaning out your attic, you find a red vase hidden in a corner. When you look inside of it you see ______. Tell us what you find and why you think it was hidden. Use a lot of detail and imagery.