

Culminating Journal Entry for  
“Dear Mr. Henshaw” by Beverly Cleary

In an early letter to author Boyd Henshaw sixth-grader Leigh Botts asked him ten questions including: How many books have you written? Is Boyd Henshaw your real name or is it a fake? Do you like to write books? Please give me some tips on how to write a book...so I can get to be a famous author and write books exactly like yours.

Mr. Henshaw wrote back with some tongue-in-cheek answers and included a list of questions for Leigh to answer. A successful author knows that before you can write about the world, you must first come to know yourself and your place in it.

To that end, please answer as honestly as you can the same ten questions Mr. Henshaw posed to Leigh. Write the answers in complete sentences so when you read this journal in the future, what you have written will make sense. You will not be required to share your answers with the class unless you want to.

1. Who are you?
2. What do you look like?
3. What is your family like? Include facts and description.
4. Where do you live? Describe.
5. Do you have any pets? If not, why not?
6. Do you like school? Why or why not?
7. Who are your friends?
8. Who is your favorite teacher? Why?
9. What bothers you?
10. What do you wish?

Thank you for your time and consideration,  
Mrs. Snively  
Grand View Elementary School Library  
Fifth Grade Read-Around and Novel Study