

Soundscape journal, August 30-September 20 (to be completed and handed in on September 20)

Name:

Week 1 (August 30-September 4)

Soundscape/Listening Activity #1: Take a sound walk. We begin with a simple exercise. WRITE DOWN ALL THE SOUNDS YOU HEAR.

Location:

Time of day:

Repeat at least two more times before the week is up. Attach more pages as necessary.

Week 2 (September 5-12)

Complete both of these activities at least once before the week is up.

Soundscape/Listening Activity #2a: Distance of sound. Find a real life situation with many moving sounds (a street corner is a good example). Go there and stand quietly for 7 minutes with your eyes closed, listening to all the sound movements. Notice what sounds are happening close to you, and which are happening far away from you.

The soundscape expands or shrinks according to the amount of activity in it. This is generally true for vision, also. Tall buildings limit our view, while in the country we can see and hear over greater distances.

Listen for the most distant sound you can hear. What is it? Can you imagine its distance from you?

Soundscape/Listening Activity #2b: Distinguishing sounds. Find another (or the same) real life situation with many moving sounds. Direct your attention to one category of sounds only (car horns, feet on the sidewalk, barking dogs, typing), and become acquainted with the entire soundscape. You will hear many of the category of sounds you've chosen, and no two sound produces sound exactly the same. How many different types do you hear on your street corner? Describe their different sounds.

Week 3 (September 13-20)

Soundscape/Listening Activity #3: Ambient sounds. Enter various shops or buildings (at least 3 over the course of the week).

Which one has the quietest ambiance?

How many shops have music playing? What kind of music?

What other kinds of sounds can be heard that are special to certain establishments?