**Encyclopedia Entries**

An interesting way to share information about who you are and what has shaped your life is through encyclopedia entries. Here are some excerpts from the book *Encyclopedia of an Ordinary Life* by Amy Krouse Rosenthal. Notice how we learn about her through short entries (mini-memoirs).

***Amy Rosenthal***

*My father-in-law informed me that my married name could produce two anagrams: Hearty Salmon, Nasty Armhole. I cannot tell you how much I love that.* (37)

***Anxious, Things That Make Me***

*Vending Machines. I have to double-, triple-check. Okay, it’s A5 for the Bugles, right? Is that right? I don’t want to read the codes wrong and end up with the Flaming Hot Cheetos. But then, what a relief when the Bugles come tumbling down. Yes! I knew it was A5!* (37)

***Birthmark***

*I have a birthmark on my left arm. As a child I thought it looked like a bear, or Africa, depending on the angle. I would often draw an eye and a mouth on it; sometimes I would allow a friend to do so. To look at my birthmark was to remind myself that I am me. (41)*

***Calling Someone’s Name***

*You’re calling someone’s name, trying to get their attention. Perhaps you’re in a crowd. Or they are across the street. Or they went to get popcorn and Raisinets and are now looking for you in the packed movie theater. You cup your hands around your mouth and repeatedly call their name, waving your are—Here I am—but they don’t hear or see you. No matter who they are—a lawyer, a surgeon, a Latin scholar—they look like an idiot searching for you, craning their head like that, and you question their intelligence.* (48)

Use your writing notebook to look back for ideas to write about. For your Encyclopedia Memoir, you need to create **an entry about you—must be your name**. You will also create **four more entries** that give us a peak into your life.They can be any letter of the alphabet. **Make sure to include at least one example of imagery.**

Encyclopedia memoir checklist:

\_\_\_\_\_\_ Has one entry using my name (about me)

\_\_\_\_\_\_ Four other entries about me or my life

\_\_\_\_\_\_ must include imagery (highlight the entry that includes imagery)

\_\_\_\_\_\_ Is free of grammar and spelling errors