**Weekly Journal Entry Assignments – FYS 178; Society, Technology, and Weather**

Week#1

1. What is a liberal arts education?
   1. Write your own definition off the top of your head
   2. Look up a reference, write down its definition, and cite the reference
2. How might a liberal arts education be useful in your future job?
3. Write down something that you learned this week

Week#2

1. How does your mother influence your decision-making process in your life?
2. How does your father influence your decision-making process in your life?
3. What person or people have the greatest influence in your life and give an example of how they influenced a recent decision you had to make?
4. Write down something that you learned this week

Week#3

Two types of decision makers; Type Q – makes a decision quickly and rarely looks back on whether the decision was right or wrong, Type D – agonizes over all the options, makes a decision at the last minute, and often looks back on whether the decision was the best one.

1. Based on what you understand about Vilhelm Bjerknes, would you consider him to be a Type Q or a Type D decision maker?
2. As you reflect on recent important decisions you had to make (e.g. which college should I attend?), would you say you are a Type Q or a Type D decision maker, or a combination of the two?
3. What is the most important influence that determines if a person is a Type Q or a Type D decision maker?
4. Write down something that you learned this week

Week#4

Think about the last time that a desirable opportunity presented itself, but had a high degree of uncertainty about whether or not it would actually happen. How did you approach this opportunity?

1. Did you actively seek to do whatever it took to increase the chances for the desirable opportunity to occur? –OR– Did you have more of a “wait and see” attitude and wait passively for the opportunity to happen?
2. When the opportunity arose for Vilhelm Bjerknes to become a leading figure in meteorology, did his behavior in Chapter 3 of the textbook indicate that he actively pursued the opportunity or that he had a “wait and see” attitude?
3. Which type of philosophy (active or passive), when an opportunity presents itself, will make a person more content in life?
4. Write down something that you learned this week

Week#5

At times an opportunity forces a person to leave a situation that is “comfortable and familiar” to a situation that is “uncomfortable and unfamiliar”.

1. Think about an opportunity recently that presented itself in which you had to decide whether or not to leave what was comfortable and familiar. What factors did you consider in your decision (pros/cons)?
2. What similar opportunity presented itself to Vilhelm Bjerknes in Chapter 4?
3. What factors would cause someone to leave behind what is comfortable and familiar?
4. What personal growth might someone experience who has accepted the challenge of an uncomfortable and unfamiliar opportunity?

Week#7

1. Describe the meaning of the saying “When life gives you lemons, make lemonade.”
2. Note an example from Chapter 5 of the course textbook when Vilhelm Bjerknes “made lemonade out of lemons.”
3. What might be the result of a person focusing on the “lemons” rather than on “making lemonade” when experiencing one of life’s challenges?
4. Write down something that you learned this week

Week#8

1. Describe advantages and disadvantages to being the oldest child in a family in terms of opportunities and adventures.
2. What advantage and disadvantage, if any, does a child have who is not the firstborn in terms of benefiting from the experience of an older brother or sister?
3. What conflicts can arise in terms of identity for children in families having more than one child?
4. Write down something that you learned this week

Week#9

1. Write down a definition for the term “symbiotic relationship”
2. Of the different types of symbiotic relationships; Mutualism, Commensalism, Parasitism, Competition, Amensalism, and Neutralism, which one best defines the type of symbiotic relationship between commercial aviation and the field of meteorology described in Chapter 7 of the FYS 178 textbook?
3. Think about a relationship between you and one of your classmates in FYS 178. Which type of symbiotic relationship best describes this relationship?
4. In a “perfect world” what would be the type of symbiotic relationship between classmates? Why?

Week#10

You are in a contest where the person selling the highest number of pomegranate skin care products wins an all-expenses paid trip to Bergen, Norway! You’ve been told by the pomegranate skin care company that the best way to sell the products is to apply the contents of a sample lotion packet to a potential customer’s forehead. The selling contest will start in one month.

1. What, if anything, do you do to prepare for the selling contest to give you the best chance to win?
2. What does it mean to learn something by “trial and error”?
3. What have you learned about successful study habits through “trial and error”?
4. What does all this “trial and error” stuff have to do with Vilhelm’s forecasting services experiments in the summers of 1918 and 1919 described in Chapter 8 of the course textbook?

Week#12

1. We see in Chapter 9 (p. 200) an example where the concept of a single polar front (single circumpolar line of discontinuity) was strongly challenged. How did Jacob Bjerknes respond to this challenge?
2. Write down an experience where someone challenged a belief or ideal that you held.
3. How did you react to this challenge?
4. Under what circumstances is a belief or ideal worth dying for? Would Jacob have been willing to put his life down to protect his concept of a single polar front? Why or why not?

Week#13

In your first writing assignment you evaluated an invention from the late 1800s or early 1900s and found that a series of “baby steps” was required before the invention could become mature. Our life experience is a similar series of baby steps.

1. List an example of a skill that you had to acquire as a young child before you could develop a more complicated skill.
2. How did your high school experience prepare you for your college experience?
3. How do you think your college experience might be shaping you for your future?
4. Other than for reasons related to your future career, how might your future be different had you chosen not to attend college?

Week#14

1. Write down your definition of “entrepreneur”.
2. Does Vilhelm Bjerknes qualify as an entrepreneur? Why or why not?
3. What personal qualities do you believe are necessary for being an entrepreneur?
4. If you determine that you are an entrepreneur, what career or niche might you try to build once you finish college?