

Reflection Options (Diary 7-14)

- **Drugs & Violence:**

- **Diary 15:** The Freedom Writer considers gang rivalry: “It’s stupid because I don’t even remember why we are rivals. That’s just the way it is.” Think of a past grudge, rivalry, or problem you have had with another person. Explain the root of the problem and how you chose to solve it.

- **Discrimination:**

- **Diary 10:** This Freedom Writer chose not to take part in a school walkout, deciding to seek sanctuary in Ms. Gruwell’s room instead. Describe a place or activity that provides you safety or peace when you are feeling stressed or pressured. What does it offer you that no other place or activity can?

Reflection Options (Diary 7-14)

- Poverty:

- **Diary 13:** The writer explains his struggles of not having a father as he grew up and his realization that his friend also had to grow up without a father figure: “I feel sorry for him. I knew how hard it was to grow up without a father.” Have you or someone close to you grown up missing a parent? Describe how this has affected you or a person close to you.