

Name \_\_\_\_\_ period \_\_\_\_\_ date \_\_\_\_\_

### English III G Transcendental Nature Walk

1. You are usually in class at this time. How do you feel about being outside?
2. Thoreau went to the woods to “live deliberately.” What effect do you think the four walls of a classroom (or any room, for that matter) have on the lungs’ breathing and hearts’ beating in the room? What about the brains thinking (or not thinking)? Do you feel more or less aware inside or outside? What accounts for any difference you feel?
3. Thoreau was all about appreciating and being aware of life. Look around you right now; find one example of life to appreciate. Tell me about it.
4. In *Walden*, Thoreau wrote a section called “The Battle of the Ants” in which he described the ferocity and industriousness of the little varmints. Find a varmint (any living creature will do) and observe it for at least a full two minutes. Write a summary of what you observed.
5. Thoreau also used bunches of metaphors and similes to convey his ideas. He typically chose an aspect of nature and found a lesson about human life in it. Do the same. Find a blade of grass, a tree, a cloud, a rock, a stick, a dead bug, whatever, and create a metaphoric lesson from it. Explain below. I’m not kidding.

Yes, the fine print—always read it. If your thoughts on any of the above do not stir you, write about whatever does move you—whatever you’re thinking about now—on the back of this page.