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 groningen

Leveraging real estate education with students' real-world observations: a diary approach

Michiel Daams, University of Groningen

Tom Geurts, George Washington University

Frans Sijtsma, University of Groningen



Substance

- › Personal scientific attitude
 - Reflective skill (overview and precision)
 - Timeliness
 -



Substance – industry demands

- › “a skill set that is needed to succeed in a *fast paced and ever changing* business environment”

Galuppo and Worzala 2004, p.40, in *JREPE*

Reflective skills
Timeliness



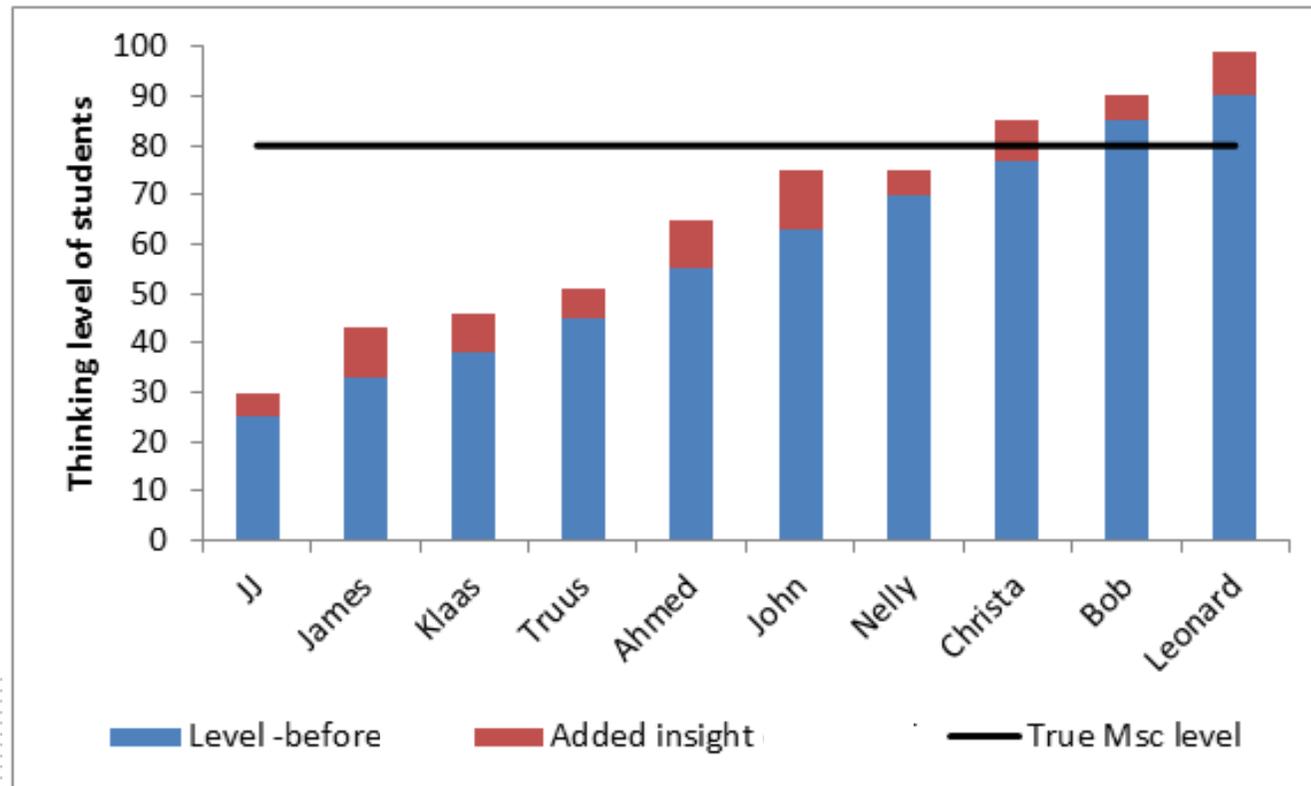
Substance – academic teaching (1/3)

- › Traditional classroom
 - Lectures, assignments, computer labs ...



Substance – academic teaching (1/3)

- › Traditional classroom
 - Lectures, assignments, computer labs ...





Substance – academic teaching (2/3)

- › Complementary methods for training *reflective skills*
 - Flipped classroom, problem based, serious gaming

Attention for critical reflection in RE edu.: e.g. Ford & Elkes (2008); Poon et al. (2011)



Substance – academic teaching (3/3)

› Personal scientific attitude

- Reflective skills
- Timeliness
-



Substance – academic teaching (3/3)

› Personal scientific attitude

• Reflective skills

“I have no special talents. I am only passionately curious”
Albert Einstein.

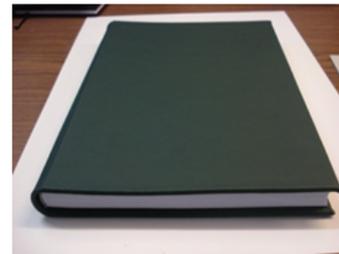
Miller et al. (2008) in *Science*

Limited formal role for curiosity in (RE) curricula



Personal Scientific Highlights Diary on RE

- › Tracking/developing your own scientific RE expertise, discoveries, problems, observations and thoughts.





A basic but complementary teaching ‘tool’

› Diaries applied at:

- University of Groningen, RE Master students
- Instructors: Frans Sijtsma, Michiel Daams
- Annually, over Sep-Nov, since 2014

- George Washington University, MBA students
- Instructor: Tom Geurts
- Starting from Jan.2017



Next

- › Short note on format
- › Preliminary analysis of diary content
- › Concluding remarks



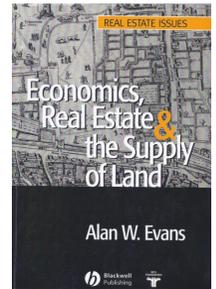
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Part of course in RE & Land Supply (Groningen)

1. Theory focus: literature (book and set of articles)



2. Empirical (data) seminars + report on assignments



3. Bonus activity: RE diary





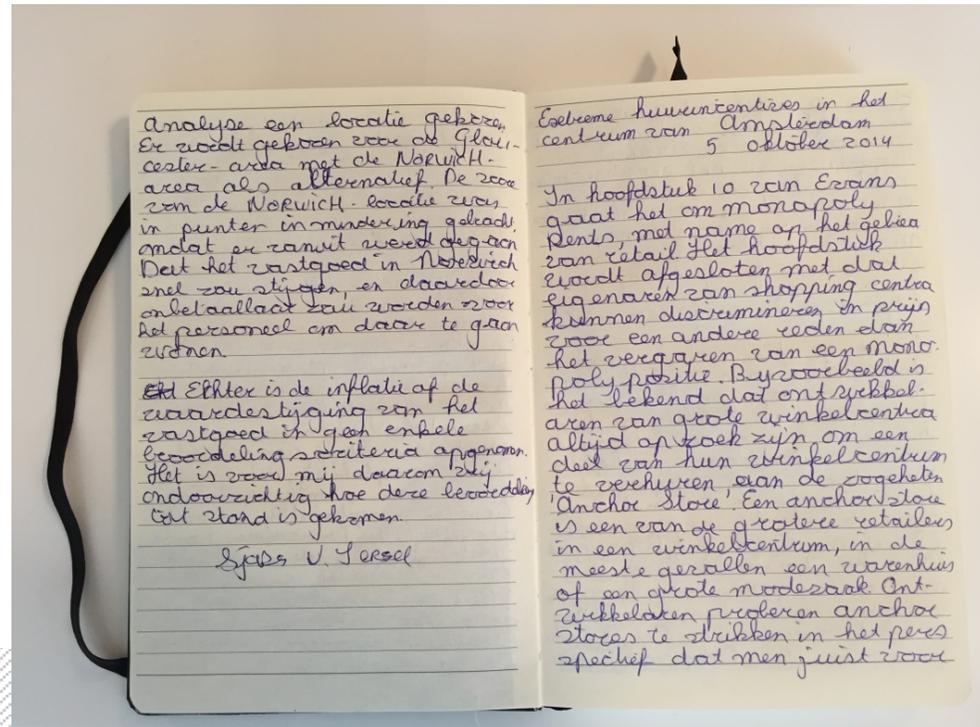
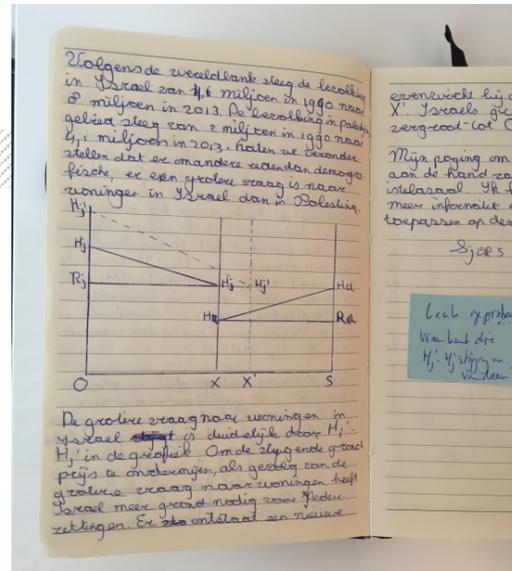
Personal Scientific Highlights Diary

- › Non-compulsory / bonus activity (true motivation)
- › Each year $\pm 2/3$ rds out of ± 40 students participate





The diary of Sjors



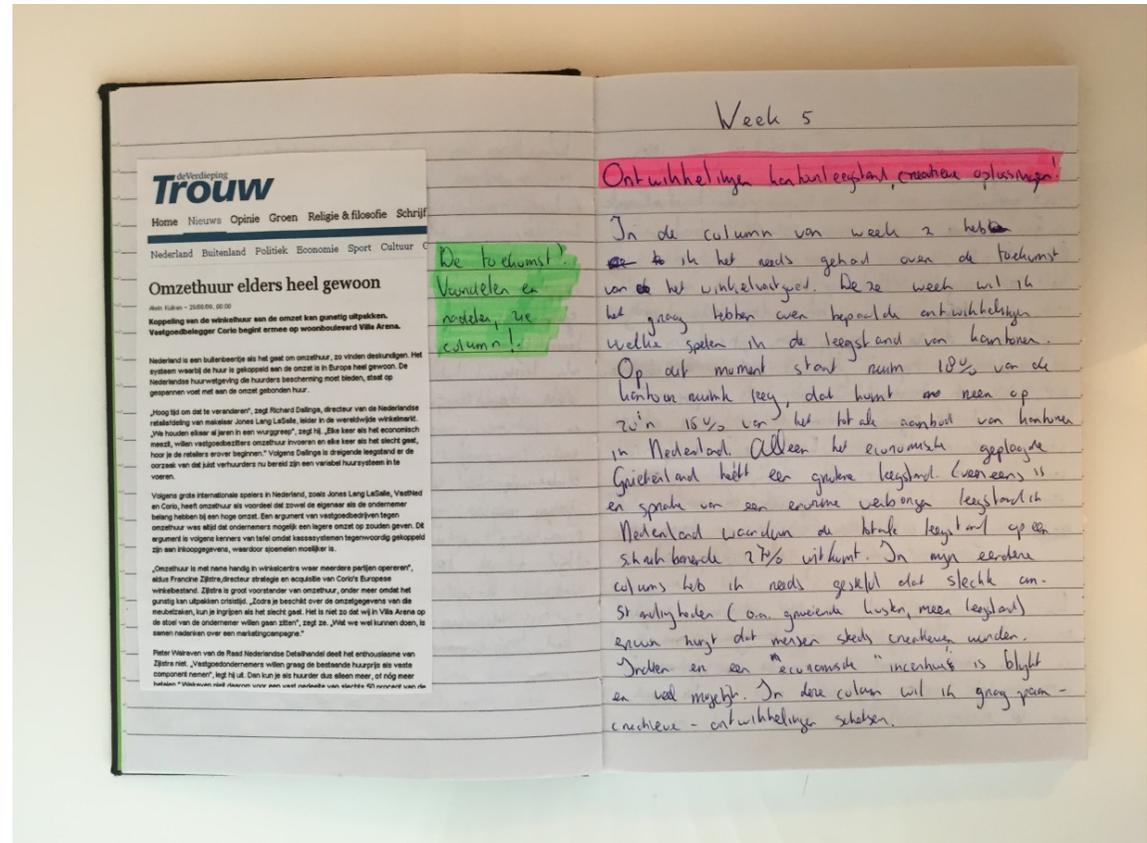


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The diary of Christiaan

Christiaan van der Ziel - Sisschuis

WEEKLY BLOG





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Preliminary analysis

- › Sample: **5 diaries**, out of 28 (diaries over 2016-2017)
- › 34 diary-entries were classified
- › Aim: first impression



Reflections on	Student 1	Student 2	Student 3	Student 4	Student 5	<i>Total</i>
Literature studied	2			1	1	4
Newspaper article	3			3		6
Class	1			1	6	8
Being on the street and seeing RE things	1		2			3
RE in own town	1	3		1		5
Diary writing and private life introduction		1	1			2
Study content and relation to profession			1			1
RE of friends and family		2				2
Non coded	1	1		1		3
<i>Total</i>	9	7	4	7	7	34

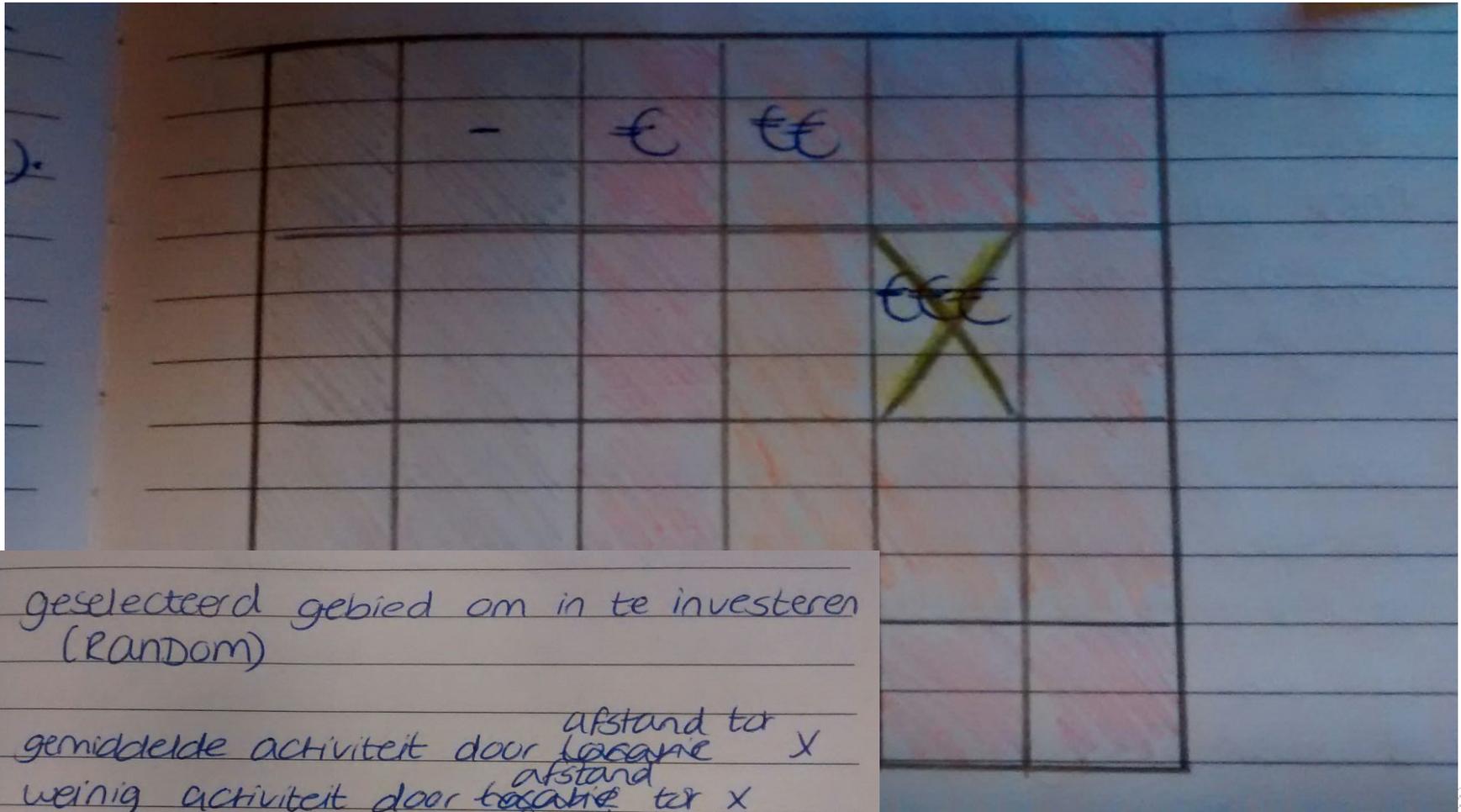


Robbert on rents and regulation





Jolien on location-random RE investments



X geselecteerd gebied om in te investeren (RANDOM)

gemiddelde activiteit door ^{afstand tot} ~~locatie~~ ^x

weinig activiteit door ^{afstand} ~~locatie~~ ^{tot x}

geen activiteit door ^{afstand} ~~locatie~~ ^{tot x},



Ashley's mix of diary entries

(figures: own copies of articles Ashly wrote about)

NOS Nieuws Sport Uitzendingen TELEERST AEX 15 km 9°

2015 NOS OP 3 2016 2017

Welke student moet wat wanneer gaan aflossen en tegen welke rente?

fd. Home Mijn nieuws Laatste nieuws Krant Beurs Meer v S&P Future 2.246,75 +0,45% Abonneren

Alexander Weissink • Economie & Politiek 8 sep 16 Tekst Krant

'Gemeenten moeten meer tempo maken voor transformatie rijksvastgoed'



Stef Blok (Foto: HH)

Gemeenten moeten veel meer haast maken met het aanpassen van hun bestemmingsplannen zodat leegstaande kantoren omgebouwd kunnen worden tot woningen. Dat zegt minister Stef Blok voor Wonen en Rijksdienst in een gesprek met het FD. De VVD-bewindsman merkt dat lokale overheden te traag werken waardoor de verkoop van overtollige rijksgebouwen aan projectontwikkelaars getraineed wordt.

Volgen via mijn nieuws

- Belasting
- Gemeentelijke financiën
- Ministerie Wonen en Rijksdienst
- Stef Blok
- Woningmarkt

fd. Home Mijn nieuws Laatste nieuws Krant Beurs Meer v S&P Future 2.246,50 +0,44%

Carel Grol • Ondernemen 15 sep 16

'Nationaliseer huizen in Groningen met aardbevingssschade'

De Staat moet de huizen in het Groningse aardbevingsgebied nationaliseren. Opkopen, opknappen, en weer terugverkopen, enigszins zoals met de banken is gebeurd. Alleen op die manier kan de regio weer worden vlotgetrokken. Deze oplossing voor het slepende probleem in

Einde van torenhoge huizenprijzen in zicht

Huizenprijzen

ARTIKEL De prijsstijging van 6 procent in augustus is de sterkste in veertien jaar. Maar het einde lijkt in zicht.

Door: Wilco Dekker 21 september 2016, 19:43

Volgen via mijn nieuws

- Groninger Nieuws
- Natuur
- VNO-NCW
- Woningmarkt

Laatste Beurs Nieuws records

De huizenprijzen in Nederland stijgen steeds sneller. In augustus lag de gemiddelde prijs van een bestaande koopwoning 6 procent hoger dan dezelfde maand een jaar eerder, zo meldden het Kadaster en het Centraal Bureau voor de Statistiek woensdag. Dat is de grootste prijsstijging in veertien jaar. Maar het einde van die steeds snellere stijgingen lijkt in zicht.

Volg de Volkskrant

Elke avond om 20.30 het laatste nieuws en alvast zes artikelen uit de krant van morgen in uw mailbox? Schrijf u in voor onze gratis nieuwsbrief.

uwnaam@email.nl

OK



Diaries – interesting dish in a RE course?

Regular deepening of own thoughts



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Some benefits of the Diary Method

› For students

- Formal ‘outlet’ for students’ **curiosity**
- Trains **reflective** thinking and writing
- Helps develop a **personal** scientific style

› For teachers

- **Personalizes** teaching
- **More topics** than you can come up with
- **Measure** of student quality & progress



Thoughts to share?

Leveraging RE education with students'
real-world observations: a diary approach

Michiel Daams (m.n.daams@rug.nl)

Tom Geurts

Frans Sijtsma



Appendix 2: Bonus Assignment- Personal Scientific Highlights Diary

Students can engage in a BONUS activity, earning between a 0,6 and 1,0 bonus grading point. The extra activity is to keep a Personal Scientific Highlights Diary (Persoonlijk Wetenschappelijk Hoogtepunten Dagboek).

What should you do?

Get your self a scrapbook (plakboek) of a form you personally like (see pictures below). It should have blank pages. You can also use a clip file or 'snelhechter'. Fill your scrap book at least once a week, with your own personal observations and highlights, related to our joint scientific endeavour in the course. The form is completely free. You can gather quotes and comment on their meaning to you. You can reflect on a part, a figure, a sentence or a chapter of the books/articles you study. You can gather related newspaper articles and comment on their meaning. You can write about your own real estate and land supply thoughts, questions and observations while you're at home or discussing things with friends or family. You can take pictures and comment on them. Etc. You can mix any of the above. As long as it is your own (personal) and as long as it is related to Real Estate and Land Supply (your scientific activity).



What is the learning objective?

As we mentioned in the philosophy of the course it essential for a Master of Science to be comfortable 'standing alone'. Keeping a personal scientific highlights diary strengthens the process of discovering your own style of having overview and precision, and your personal (scientific) interests. You become more easily aware of questions and problems that are important to you, and aspects that you can possibly contribute to. You discover more easily which concepts, tools, numbers really work for you and which not; which you find hard to understand and which help your understanding.

Why is it a bonus activity?

Not every student is comfortable with the openness of this assignment. From a teacher perspective there is little use in 'forcing' students into this, since it requires a true motivation, a true interest from the student. Only in the latter case is it an interesting activity. An activity that you may well continue throughout your study. So although from an educational perspective and following from the philosophy of the course this may be one of the most important activities, it is still a bonus activity.

Grading of the Personal Scientific Highlights Diary

The quality of the PS Highlights Diary is judged on the following aspects:

- the regular placing of meaningful input (minimum: weekly)
- whether it contains interesting/original/personally-flavoured/thoughtful/analytical/critical/real-life&abstract scientific elements in terms of content
- whether the form is clear (minimum) and attractive/creative.

Form

Preferably you use a non-(exclusively)-digital format. This will be the one that is read and graded. However, for archiving your work (obligatory to the university) you have to make a digital copy and hand that in too. You get your own diary back – possibly and hopefully for further future use.



Grading or no grading?

- › Bonus points on top of the final course-grade (1-10)
 - +0.6
 - +0.8
 - +1.0
 - 3 criteria: input frequency, ‘quality’, form
 - Can’t compensate insufficient grade
 - *Bookkeeping: students digitize their finalized diaries, we store them
 - Non-compulsory (true motivation)