Mr. Hart
Poetry

Questions for "The Dead Poet's Society"

Answer all questions with a paragraph or two in the space provided, or on a separate sheet of paper

1. Mr. Keating (Robin Williams) tells his students *Carpe Diem*, or "Seize the Day". What do you think he meant, and how can that statement apply to your poem writing?

2. What was the purpose of the "dead poet's society"? Why do you think it was necessary (or was it?) for the boys to form this club?

3. Keating tells his students that they can write anything that they want, just as long as it is not "ordinary". What does he mean by this?

4. What are your ideas about conformity? Are you a conformist? In what ways?

5. Keating says that one of the purposes for poetry is to “woo women”. What does he mean by that? Why is poetry and romance so often tied together?

6. The students are asked to stand on their desks in order to see things from a different point of view. How important is this in poetry? What happens when people are unable to see things from a different point of view?

7. Write a poem based upon one of the themes of this movie (taking charge of your life, different perspectives, be your own person, etc.). The poem should be at least 8 lines long. You will be reading it out loud, in front of the class. Don’t make it ordinary!