

Symbolism Study

documentary:



a work, such as a film or television program, presenting political, social, or historical subject matter in a factual and informative manner and often consisting of actual news films or interviews accompanied by narration

In "Ribbons," Stacy's ribboned ballet shoes meant a lot to her. They **symbolized** her enthusiasm for ballet dancing. In "The Treasure of Lemon Brown," the old man proudly shows Greg his harmonica and newspaper reviews, which **represented** Brown's career as a Blues musician as well as the love his son had for him.

In your own life, there are probably many items that you feel represent you, your interests, and your accomplishments. These items might include an award you once won, an article of clothing you often wear, a souvenir from a trip, or a favorite book you've read.

If you were to make a documentary about yourself, you would certainly wish to include those items in the film to help explain who you are as a person.

Examples from Mrs. Harris' Life

key chain of a high top basketball shoe that hangs on the bulletin board in my office at my house	This was given to me by a member of the first basketball team I ever coached. I was a junior in college and helped out at Hillsboro Middle School. During a party at the end of the season, one of my players gave it to me. It represents 17 years of coaching basketball.
a group picture of my city when I attended South Dakota Girls' State back in 1983; it hangs in office at my house	My essay was better than the smartest girl's in our class because the American Legion chose me to go and not her. For the first few days at Girls' State, I was lost at first, not understanding what in the world we were doing. But this honor represents me in the respect that I try to stay up on current events and enjoy following politics. I have strong convictions about issues and the fact that I was picked to go to this—even when a teenager—represents an important part of who I am.

Directions:

Imagine that you are planning a documentary of your life. Think of at least six personal items you would display. List each item and explain its significance in representing your personality. Add more to the back if necessary. Describe the item thoroughly & it's physical place in your life. Then describe its importance in who you are.

	Item	Significance
1.		
2.		
3.		
4.		
5.		
6.		