Sample Quick Writes from Vivian Johnson's Eighth-Grade Class

Sample 1

Ready to go home

I look back at what I had left

A black work of nature

Is sitting there, staring at me.

I walked away thinking

about what I had just done

to my precious dog

I left it there

In the middle of

Asking for their legs

the terrified soldiers

belched out my name

All the blood and guts.

It was horrible

This was not in the

quiet buldging eyes
stare at me through a window
my sister is spying on me again
stealthy as a fox
she darts behind the door frame
only her shirt tail visible

"ready to go home"

The train glide through the tunnel
with a barely audible hum. It was late and I was, admittedly, tired. That
mosh pit had taken a lot out of me
but, god, it was worth it. I have never
been to a show that good.

The boys were born

Without their legs

So they came to me

I work with artificial

Hearts, legs, arms

So they came to me

As I looked upon

Thier helpless faces

I noticed hope

not ready to go home

I stayed with my friends

in our dorm room

until the last possible

second

Not knowing if I'll ever

come back to this place

not knowing what next

year will bring for us

Not ready to go home yet

Not ready to leave camp