Journal 2- Are the characters realistic (do they seem like they could be real people)? Why or why not? Give examples.

Journal 2

Date: September 30, 2013

Title: The Lightning Thief

Author: Rick Riordan

In some ways this prompt assignment is very difficult to answer because I’m reading a fantasy novel called The Lightning Thief. I guess in some regards the characters are both realistic and unrealistic.

On one hand, Percy is a very realistic character because he has real life problems. At the beginning of the novel he seemed like any regular adolescent who has a hard time in school. He had some issues with learning and often got into trouble, being expelled from a number of schools. His family struggled with money and he had a difficult relationship with his step-dad. These are all problems that kids encounter every day.

On the other hand, Percy has proven to be unrealistic in that he is a demi-god. He appears to be in possession of supernatural powers of some sort which are linked somehow to water. The fact that he has battled and killed a Minotaur shows that there are aspects to this character that are far-fetched.

All in all, Percy is a character who is complex with both realistic and unrealistic qualities.