

9th – 11th grade Summer Reading Instructions.

Purpose: To give you a framework that will give you a chance to “deeply” read your summer reading book.

1) You will need to acquire a copy of your summer reading book. We will be working with this book for the first quarter of this semester.

2) As you read, complete a dialectic journal. This is also sometimes called a double entry journal. An example of what it looks like is on the next page.

In column 1 you place a quote from the book that seems important to you. Does the quote reveal something about a character? Does it have vivid imagery or figurative language? Does it feature symbolism? Does it seem rhetorical?

Quote lengths will vary, so have a variety of appropriate length quotes.

In column 2 write the page number where you found the quote. Be advised that when I take these up, I will be checking for veracity here.

In column three you will reflect on the quote. This can be done in several ways:

You can explain why the quote is important to the entire novel. Be specific, don’t just write, “it is important to Hans.” Tell WHY it is important. Don’t summarize: analyze.

You can give a text to text connection. Does this quote remind you of something else you’ve seen or read? Explain the specific connection (don’t summarize either text; instead, explain).

You can explain what is going on in the quote from a literary or rhetorical perspective (most entries should be along these lines). Is the author using imagery, figures of speech, symbolism, particular types of characterization, etc.? Is a recurring theme being discussed? Has the author changed the tone or atmosphere of the text? How? Why would the author use these methods at this point in the work? How does all this relate to the things we’ve talked about in class?

Length: Each entry should include a full quote. Your response should be a full paragraph (around 8 sentences, NOT 3-6 sentences) minimum, but may be as long as a page.

How many? At least 2 per chapter.

Format: These MUST be hand-written. Either way, it should be submitted in a “nice” professional format. In no case should it appear rushed or messy.

Final notes: This is a good bit of work, but not too bad IF you work on it as it is intended: a little at a time. .

Also, the quotes and responses should be YOURS. If I notice that quotes and interpretations are shared by two students, there will be consequences.

Dialectical Journal

| Quotation | Page | Why do I find this quotation interesting or important ? |
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