

**English II (Honors)/Pre AICE
Reader Response Journals/Dialogue
2009-2010**

A. Reader Response Journals Categories:

(Individual Novel Responses)

Directions: While reading your novel, please identify each one of these categories per chapter or pages. Furthermore, please make sure you provide enough detail (don't forget you can abbreviate like when completing your Cornell Notes: punctuation, spelling, grammar rules will not be counted against you) so that you will be able to explain your novel to the class when you complete your Power Point Presentation. Furthermore, choose at least (5) Reader Response questions each week to add to your journal. Finally, here is an example of for you to follow:

Ex. Chapter 1/ (pages 1-6)

*Characters: Examples

1. John Smith
2. Betsy Black

* Setting:

1. Raining, cold night in Vermont: Mirrors the character's (JS) attitude

* Conflict:

1. Internal Struggle: Does he take the money or not??

* Diction/Vocab:

1. Auspicious: Favorable

Categories: Identify per chapter or page

- I** Characters
- C** Setting
- S** Conflicts: Internal/External
- C** Themes
- T** Allusions
- A** Diction/Vocabulary

Imagery

- I Figurative Language: metaphor, simile, personification, etc.
- F Syntax
- S Indirect/Direct Characterization
- I Dialect: Language that different people speak: like **Their Eyes Were Watching God**
- T Active Voice/Passive: Action verbs or “be” verbs: explain why
- A Rhetorical devices
- R Cause/effect
- C Compare/Contrast
- C Persuasive devices

B. Reading Response Journals: Questions: Fiction

1. In today's reading, did the setting or any of the characters remind you of people or characters in your own personal life? Were any of the situations or events similar to your own life? How were they alike and how were they different?
2. Does this story or its characters remind you of another story you have read? Does it remind you of a movie? How are they alike? And how are they different?
3. If you could change the setting in this story to another setting, what setting would you choose? Would you change just the time period? Or would you change the place, the season, the actual environment—one of poverty, riches, or middle class America? Why would you make those changes?
4. If you could change the life or lives of a story character, to make their lives more like the lives of the characters in the book or story you are reading, whose lives would you change? How would you change their lives? Why did you pick these people or that person?
5. If you were to put this story into your own life, in the area where you live, around the people and friends that you know, how would the story have to change? How would the people change? Would the setting have to change? Why would these changes have to take place?
6. Sometimes we are pulled toward one or two characters in the story. We identify with them or feel sympathy for them. With which characters do you identify in the book, and why do you believe you identify with them?

7. Sometimes when we read, certain words or phrases or images stand out. Maybe they are words or phrases that make an impression because of their sound, or maybe the meaning or image they make strikes us? Sometimes we find words or expressions we just do not understand. Share those that you have come across and describe why you listed them.

8. Now that you are this far into the story, what do you look forward to learning next? What conflicts or problems do you think the characters will face? What qualities of your character (honest, loyal, cruel, dishonest, angry, vengeful) will affect how the character handles the problems and conflicts he or she encounters?

9. If you could ask any character a question, what would you ask? If you could ask the author a question, what might that be? Explain why you chose these questions.

10. As you read today, what surprised you? Explain how this will affect the story or how it changed your thinking about the story.

11. What do you hope will happen in the story or to the characters? Why do you wish for that to happen?

12. Are you puzzled or confused about anything in the story? What is it that confuses you, and why do you find it confusing?

13. It is not unusual to wish that our lives were more like the lives of characters in stories. How would you change your own real life to be more like the world of your story?

14. Why do you think the author wrote this story? Where did he or she get the idea or the characters? What message do you think that the author is trying to share?

C. Readers' Response - Questions

A. What does the story make you think about?

B. What feelings do you experience?

C. What questions occur to you as you read or listen?

D. What predictions do you make?

E. What pictures occur in your head?

F. Does this book remind you of anything else?

G. How did the author get you to think?

H. How did the author get you to feel happy, scared, confused, excited, etc.

I. What did you really like about this book?

J. How do you feel about the characters in this book?

K. How did you feel after you finished reading your story compared to the earlier feelings you had as you were reading?

L. What aspects of the writer's craft especially appealed to you?

M. Quote the sentence or sentences that brought the book alive for you. Can you tell why it worked?

N. Who do you know who would like this book? Why?

O. In what ways can you identify with the main character?

P. What phrases, expressions, vocabulary or points of writing style did you learn from the author that you plan to use in your own writing?

Q. How much did you personally agree or disagree with the way the characters thought or acted or the kinds of beliefs or values they held?

R. Were there any real life issues that made you think? Discuss them.

S. How would you have revised the story to make it better?

D. When writing a reading response journal the student should consider the following:

A) Retells or summarizes the story

B) Connects own experiences in the story

C) States opinion and provides support

D) Interprets the author's meaning

E) Makes some predictions or hypotheses

F) Asks questions

G) Makes some personal reflections