

## 10<sup>th</sup> Grade Summer Reading

Please select one of the following texts to read this summer. As you read, you will complete 15 entries in a dialectical journal.

- *Sense and Sensibility* by Jane Austen (1811) - fiction; 352 pages  
A classic British novel following the lives of the Dashwood sisters as they come of age.
- *The A.B.C. Murders* by Agatha Christie (1936) - fiction; 256 pages  
A classic murder mystery featuring Hercule Poirot. Anyone with an alliterative name could be a victim.
- *Outcasts United* by Warren St. John (2009) - nonfiction; 240 pages  
A nonfiction story of a refugee soccer team and how it transformed a small Georgia town.
- *Code Talker* by Joseph Bruchac (2006) - fiction; 240 pages  
A riveting fictional tale of Ned Begay, a sixteen-year-old Navajo boy who becomes a code talker.
- *A History of the World in Six Glasses* by Tom Standage (2006) - nonfiction; 336 pages  
The story of humanity from the Stone Age to present day as told through the cultural backdrop of six commonly consumed beverages.
- *Dragon Hoops* by Gene Luen Yang (2020) - graphic novel; 448 pages  
A graphic novel exploring the author's fascination with his school's extraordinarily successful basketball team as they pursue the state title eluding them.
- *Joy Luck Club* by Amy Tan (1989) - fiction; 288 pages  
A modern classic focusing on four Chinese American immigrant families in San Francisco.
- *The Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy* by Douglas Adams (1979) - fiction; 208 pages  
A comedy science fiction following the misadventures of Arthur Dent after the demolition of Earth by an alien fleet.
- *Divergent* by Veronica Roth (2011) - fiction; 487 pages  
A dystopian adventure following Beatrice Prior who leaves everything she knows behind and uncovers a conspiracy.
- *Bleachers* by John Grisham (2003) - fiction; 276 pages  
Was Eddie Rake a hero or a villain? That depends on which former player you ask.
- *I Must Betray You* by Ruta Sepetys (2022) - fiction; 336 pages  
Amidst the tyrannical dictatorship of Nicolae Ceausescu in a country governed by isolation and fear, Cristian is extorted by the secret police to become an informer.

## DIALECTICAL JOURNALS

The term “Dialectic” means “the art or practice of arriving at the truth by using conversation involving question and answer.” Think of your dialectical journal as a series of conversations with the texts we read during this course. The process is meant to help you develop a better understanding of the texts we read. Use your journal to incorporate your personal responses to the texts, your ideas about the themes we cover and our class discussions. You will find that it is a useful way to process what you’re reading, prepare yourself for group discussion, and gather textual evidence for your Literary Analysis assignments.

### **PROCEDURE:**

- Select a title from the approved list as your summer read.
- As you read, choose passages that stand out to you and record them in the left-hand column of the chart (*ALWAYS include page numbers*).
- In the right column, write your response to the text (ideas/insights, questions, reflections, and comments on each passage)
- You **must** label your responses using the following codes:
  - **(Q) Question** – ask about something in the passage that is unclear
  - **(C) Connect** – make a connection to your life, the world, or another text
  - **(P) Predict** – anticipate what will occur based on what’s in the passage
  - **(CL) Clarify** – answer earlier questions or confirm/disaffirm a prediction
  - **(R) Reflect** – think deeply about what the passage means in a broad sense – not just to the characters in the story/author of the article. What conclusions can you draw about the world, about human nature, or just the way things work?
  - **(E) Evaluate** - make a judgment about what the author is trying to say
- Your dialectical journal must have at least 15 entries and cover the entire book.
- Dialectical journals must be typed. A template can be found at the end of this document.
- Bring a copy of your journal to class on the first day of school. Make sure your document is ready and available on your laptop.
- You will be required to submit your dialectical journal via Canvas during the first week of school and prior to grading.

**Sample Dialectical Journal entry: Beyond the Yellow Highlighter**

<p>Passages from the text-- Must quote at least 15 per reading assigned. Make sure to number them.</p>	<p>Pg#/¶</p>	<p>EACH Passage you Quote must relate to one of the following codes above. Make sure to use a variety. Using the same codes for most/all your entries will result in a lower score.</p>
<p>1. "The yellow marks in my college textbooks...did not help me very much."  2. "Annotations do make me read a lot slower and I wish I didn't have to do them. It is so much harder to fake read if you have to annotate like we have to do now. So now I actually read, because it's too hard to fake annotate"</p>	<p>82/1  87/2</p>	<p>(C) I can relate since I often used to highlight what I thought was important and then end up with most of the page highlighted.  (C) It is harder to fake annotate--it almost takes more time. (R) People are prone to find the easy way to do something. Since there's really no easy way to annotate--fake or real--it makes sense to really read and think about the texts. (Q) Is it really harder to fake read if you have to annotate? Or does it just take longer?</p>

## CHOOSING PASSAGES FROM THE TEXT:

Look for quotes that seem significant, powerful, thought-provoking or puzzling. For example, you might record:

- Effective &/or creative use of stylistic or literary devices
- Passages that remind you of your own life or something you've seen before
- Structural shifts or turns in the plot
- A passage that makes you realize something you hadn't seen before
- Examples of patterns: recurring images, ideas, colors, symbols or motifs.
- Passages with confusing language or unfamiliar vocabulary
- Events you find surprising or confusing
- Passages that illustrate a particular character or setting

## RESPONDING TO THE TEXT:

You can *respond* to the text in a variety of ways. The most important thing to remember is that your observations should be **specific and detailed**. You can write as much as you want for each entry.

### Basic Responses

- Raise questions about the beliefs and values implied in the text
- Give your personal reactions to the passage
- Discuss the words, ideas, or actions of the author or character(s)
- Tell what it reminds you of from your own experiences
- Write about what it makes you think or feel
- Agree or disagree with a character or the author

#### Sample Sentence Starters:

I really don't understand this because...  
I really dislike/like this idea because...  
I think the author is trying to say that...  
This passage reminds me of a time in my life when...  
If I were (name of character) at this point I would...  
This part doesn't make sense because...  
This character reminds me of (name of person) because...

### Higher Level Responses

- Analyze the text for use of literary devices (tone, structure, style, imagery)
- Make connections between different characters or events in the text
- Make connections to a different text (or film, song, etc...)
- Discuss the words, ideas, or actions of the author or character(s)
- Consider an event or description from the perspective of a different character
- Analyze a passage and its relationship to the story as a whole

## Dialectical Journal

**(Q) Question** – ask about something in the passage that is unclear

**(C) Connect** – make a connection to your life, the world, or another text

**(P) Predict** – anticipate what will occur based on what's in the passage

**(CL) Clarify** – answer earlier questions or confirm/disaffirm a prediction

**(R) Reflect** – think deeply about what the passage means in a broad sense – not just to the author of the article. What conclusions can you draw about the world, about human nature, or just the way things work?

**(E) Evaluate** - make a judgment about what the author is trying to say

**(A) Analyze** – explain how the author is using rhetoric and language to make point and persuade the audience

Quotation From the Text	Page #/ Para #	Response