

NOVEL RESPONSE GUIDE INSTRUCTIONS

You will fill out the following four sections for your reading in your journal. Each entry must include book title, pages numbers, and date. When you meet to discuss with your classmates, additional ideas/notes from that discussion should take up the next few pages of your journal. You will be graded on both your preparation as well as your notes over the group discussion.

Direct the Discussion!

Develop a list of questions that your group can discuss about this part of the novel. Your questions should be ones that require *thought* and get everyone *talking and sharing their opinions and reactions*. The best discussion questions come from your own thoughts, feelings, and concerns as you read, so each question also requires your initial thoughts and support for the question. Do NOT write questions that call for a simple "yes" or "no" answer or a factual detail!

- Pose each of the questions to your group for discussion.
- Ask for each member of your group to state their comment/questions about this section of the novel. *Lead your group in response to what each person says.*

Question stems:

What do you think was significant about (quote/ event) on page _____?

What do you think (character/author) meant by (quote) on page _____

In light of (quote/ event) on page _____, how could (character) believe/ do _____?

In light of (quote/ event) on page _____, what do you think will happen to (character/theme)?

How do you think (quote/ event) on page _____ is relevant to (theme of the book) ?

Find the Words!

Find two unknown words, define them, and create a good sentence using each. Also focus on the tone of the word and how it is used in context. You will need the word's location, definition, and an excellent sentence for credit.

Master the Passage!

Locate passages of the story that your group should reread, discuss, and think about.

- Passages should be *important things for everyone to notice, remember, or think about*.
- Choose a *variety* of passages, not all the same type--here are suggestions:
 - Connect the passage to a current event or another piece of literature.
 - Surprising/startling events or character development
 - Descriptive writing: figurative language, strong verbs, etc.
 - Important to the plot (maybe a clue? foreshadowing?)
 - Controversial event (elicits different opinions from group members)
 - Confusion about why characters/ events happen as they do
- Either read it aloud yourself, have everyone read it silently, or ask someone to read it.
- Give reasons for selecting the passage; ask for comments. Do they agree with your choices?

Sum it Up!

Prepare a brief summary of today's reading that conveys the key points and the main highlights of today's reading assignment. *Be sure to write your summary in complete sentences!* When you have finished your summary, give this section a short title--something that captures the main idea. Summaries should not be copied from any source; use your own words.