



HSA Summer Reading 2019 -Literary Response

Journals

- English I (Freshmen) *
- English II (Sophomore) *

***Required for students who signed up for honors-level English. Extra credit for students who are taking general-level English.**

--Your Literary Response Journal should convince Mrs. Alexander that you have read and thought carefully about each assigned literary work. If your understanding of the work is "wrong," yet your journal clearly proves that you read (or misread), you may well receive full credit.

--Your grade is based on content -- what you have to say, how well you say it, your thoughts and feelings about the literature, and your explanation of the logic that led to your interpretation.

--Your grade is also based on following directions. You will not be penalized for grammar and usage errors, but to receive credit, **you MUST include the following in every LRJ:**

- A FULL typed page (double spaced), NO HEADING
- The title and author of the book (in the first sentence)
- A quotation from the work -- integrated with your own sentence, properly punctuated, and commented upon as necessary to show why you cited that particular passage.
- Specific references to the piece of literature
- Careful thought

After you've included the five MUSTs above, you may choose any of these MAYBEs to guide your response. You may choose more than one to write about or you may even choose the same one every time. Consider the possibilities:

- [1] a general statement of the literary work's content, a summary or a paraphrase
- [2] an analysis of a major character -- flat/round, static/dynamic, internal / external conflicts, dominant traits, significant actions, personal relationships...
- [3] a comparison / contrast of related characters -- protagonist / antagonist, foils, doubles, stereotypes, stock characters...
- [4] a discussion of the role(s) played by minor character(s)
- [5] an analysis of elements of plot (exposition, narrative hook, rising action, climax / turning point, falling action, resolution) or plot patterns
- [6] an analysis of a poem's speaker or a story's narrator
- [7] an analysis of the effect of setting -- time, place, circumstances
- [8] an analysis of the work's symbolism
- [9] a discussion of the validity and development of the theme(s)
- [10] a discussion of the title's significance
- [11] a detailed response to a specific word, phrase, line, sentence, passage, or scene
- [12] a very limited or general comparison to another story, song, poem, play, movie...
- [13] a close analysis of the writer's style -- figurative language, imagery, sentence structure, specific word choices, or connotation and denotation...
- [14] an examination of poetic techniques used, such as simile, metaphor, personification, alliteration, onomatopoeia, allusion...
- [15] a transformation of the literary work to another form, such as a cartoon, a news story, a letter, a play, a commercial, a soap opera, a fable...
- [16] an original poem developing in some way from the assigned work
- [17] a discussion of the writer's life and its relevance to the work
- [18] a statement relating the work to your experience or ideas
- [19] an explanation of problems you had in understanding the work
- [20] your opinion of the work, good or bad, supported by specific references from the work



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- Honors English I (Freshmen)
- Honors English II (Sophomore)

▶▶▶ You will write 5 Literary Response Journals for the book you choose from the list below

Since each book has a different length of chapters, etc. I suggest that you split the book into 5 nearly even sections and write an LRJ after you finish each section. You will be scored down if all of your LRJs are about the first half of the book.

Google Classroom Instructions:

1. Use your HSA Google account
 - PLEASE CHECK THAT YOU KNOW YOUR PASSWORD BEFORE THE LAST DAY OF SCHOOL!
2. Use the code below to join the correct class in classroom.google.com
 - Honors English I (Freshmen): **k3m5no**
 - English I: **65iod32**

 - Honors English II (Sophomore): **p53lts2**
 - English II: **rvtjh88**
3. Find the correct assignment in Google Classroom that corresponds with the LRJ you are writing.
4. In the assignment, click CREATE to make a Google Doc where you will type your LRJ according to the precise formatting instructions below.
5. Make sure you click TURN IN when you are finished.
6. Your grade will be docked if these instructions and the following format are not followed.

Format:

- Font: Times New Roman, 12-point
- Spacing: Double Spaced
- Margins: 1" on all sides
- Title and Author's Name in first sentence
- **THE ONLY THING AT THE TOP OF THE PAGE SHOULD BE WHAT PAGES YOUR RESPONES ARE OVER (example p. 1 - p. 58)**

Length: At least 1 full page double-spaced

Due Date: All LRJs must be turned in on Google Classroom before the first day of school, August 13. No exceptions will be made AFTER that date. **If you do not complete your summer reading assignment, you will not be able to continue in the Honors English class with the weighted GPA.** You must contact Mrs. Hawks via email during the summer if you have extenuating circumstances that keep you from completing your summer reading assignments.

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▶ English I (Freshmen)

You may choose to borrow the book of your choice from a local library or purchase a copy. You may choose to purchase an eBook if you have a device to read it from (you can download the Kindle or Nook app on your smartphone). I suggest Amazon if you plan to purchase a copy.

Since each book has a different length of chapters, etc. I suggest that you split the book into 5 nearly even sections and write an LRJ after you finish each section. You will be scored down if all of your LRJs are about the first half of the book.

Book Choices

1. *Turtles All the Way Down* by John Green
2. *Tuesdays with Morrie* by Mitch Albom
3. *Miss Peregrine's Home for Peculiar Children* by Ransom Riggs
4. *Eleanor and Park* by Rainbow Rowell
5. *The Giver* by Lois Lowry

► English II (Sophomores)

You may choose to borrow the book of your choice from a local library or purchase a copy. You may choose to purchase an eBook if you have a device to read it from (you can download the Kindle or Nook app on your smartphone). I suggest Amazon if you plan to purchase a copy.

Since each book has a different length of chapters, etc. I suggest that you split the book into 5 nearly even sections and write an LRJ after you finish each section. You will be scored down if all of your LRJs are about the first half of the book.

Book Choices

1. *One of Us is Lying* by Karen M. McManus
2. *Beautiful Creatures* by Kami Garcia & Margaret Stohl
3. *The Help* by Kathryn Stockett
4. *The Hobbit* by JRR Tolkein
5. *Catch -22* by Joseph Heller

If you have trouble thinking of enough to fill a page, use some of the following suggested sentence lead-ins.

1. I wonder what this means...
2. I really don't understand this part because...
3. I really like or dislike this book because...
4. This character, _____, reminds me of somebody I know because...
5. This character, _____, reminds me of myself because...
6. This character, _____, is like _____ in _____ because...
7. I think this setting is important because...
8. This scene reminds me of a similar scene in _____ because...
9. This part is very realistic or unrealistic because...
10. I like or dislike this style of writing because...
11. This section makes me think about _____ because...
12. This section is particularly effective because...
13. I think the relationship between _____ and _____ is interesting because...
14. The ideas here remind me of the ideas in _____ because...
15. I like or dislike the character, _____, because...
16. This situation reminds me of a similar situation in my own life when...
17. The character I most admire is _____ because...
18. If I were _____ at this point, I would...

Avoid plot summary

Explore your feelings, thoughts, reactions, questions. Take some risks. Write about what you like or dislike, what seems confusing or unusual to you. Tell what you think something means. Make predictions about what might happen later. Try to relate this book to another work you've read. Connect your personal experiences with the characters, plot, or setting.