

2022 Summer Reading – English III (DeBruyn)

The summer reading assignment for English III students is designed to reinforce an appreciation of reading and allow students time during the summer to practice and maintain their reading skills.

Overview: Students enrolled in English III are required to read **ONE** book from the list below and complete a Reader's Response Journal for their chosen book. The journal is due in class on the first day of school.

Step 1: Students choose one of the novels from the list below. Students should choose a text that interests them and is written in a style that they find appealing. Students may want to use a website like Amazon to read sample pages and explore these texts. Students should be reading the chosen work for the **first** time.

Book Choices:

Watership Down (Richard Adams)

2001: A Space Odyssey (Arthur C. Clarke)

The Hobbit (J.R.R. Tolkien)

On the Beach (Nevil Shute)

Step 2: Complete a Reader's Response Journal for the book you read. Requirements for the journal and the journal template follow this letter.

Step 3: Bring the **typed** journal to class **on the first day of school.**

I look forward to reading your journal entries and being a part of your 11th grade year.

We are going to read some books that may change your life.

Please enjoy your summer!

Mr. DeBruyn

Guidelines for the Reader's Response Journal

The expectation is that this is an **INDIVIDUAL** assignment; therefore, collaboration with other students is **NOT** allowed. Any assistance from other people, the Internet, movies, or secondary sources, such as but not limited to SparkNotes or Shmoop, will be viewed as cheating and will result in a **ZERO** on the assignment. The text you've chosen is there for everyone to read; however, the connections and interpretations are uniquely yours. You are neither right nor wrong in your response. So, be willing to take risks, try your ideas, and be honest.

If you have questions about the format or assignment, please email Mr. DeBruyn at debruyv@shrineschools.com.

What is a Reader's Response Journal?

Reader's Response Journals record student feelings, responses, and reactions to reading texts. This active learning strategy encourages students to think deeply about the materials they read and to relate this information to their prior knowledge and experiences. Reader's Response Journals allow students to reflect on and raise questions about a text. These journals are especially valuable for promoting opinion making, value judgments, and critical thinking.

What does a Reader's Response Journal look like?

You will use a double-entry form to examine details of a passage and synthesize your understanding of the text. A sample Reader's Response Journal entry is provided below. Use the Reader's Response Journal Template model at the end of this assignment to guide you.

Here are a few sample journals. I've chosen books you have probably already read so you can relate to what is here.

The Great Gatsby by F. Scott Fitzgerald

Passage	Response
"Gatsby believed in the green light, the future that year by year recedes before us. It eluded us then, but that's no matter—tomorrow we will run faster, stretch our arms farther...And one fine morning— So we beat on, boats against the current, borne back ceaselessly into the past" (Fitzgerald 180).	Green is the color of life and rebirth; it also signals us to "go" instead of stop. Fitzgerald increases this sense of hope and energy by predicting that we will continue to try harder and reach farther. But...then the image changes. We are in a boat, struggling against the current (of time??), moving not forward but backward. Is this a pessimistic or an optimistic passage?

Of Mice and Men by John Steinbeck

Passage	Response
“And George raised the gun and steadied it, and he brought the muzzle to the back of Lennie’s head. The hand shook violently, but his face set and his hand steadied. He pulled the trigger. The crash of the shot rolled up the hills and rolled down again. Lennie jarred, and then settled slowly forward to the sand, and he lay without quivering” (Steinbeck 106).	<p>First of all, this passage immediately reminded me of when the cowboys shot Candy’s old dog to put it out of its misery.</p> <p>Notice that George’s hand initially shook and then steadied. Was he nervous? What settled him down? Could he have realized that although he was killing Lennie, this put him safely outside of danger from a worse fate at the hands of Curley?</p> <p>Lennie clearly did not suffer—he lay “without quivering.”</p>

When should you write a passage down?

Choose **TEN** passages from the chosen book. Passages should be distributed throughout the entire book. Every passage must include the page number. *Note: If you are using an e-book and no page numbers are available, include the chapter title or percent read.*

How do you choose which passage to write down?

- Details that seem important to you
- The passage reminds you of another text or of something in your own life
- You have an epiphany (a sudden realization)
- You learn something significant about a character or topic
- You recognize a pattern (overlapping images, repetition of ideas, details, etc.)
- You agree or disagree with something a character or the author says or does
- You find an interesting or potentially significant quotation
- You notice something important or relevant about the writer’s style (word choice, sentence structure, or dialogue)
- You notice effective use of literary devices (imagery, metaphor, simile, symbolism, etc.)

What should you write in the response column?

Reflect upon the passages.

- DO NOT MERELY SUMMARIZE THE PASSAGE.
- Raise questions about the beliefs and values implied in the text.
- Give your personal reactions to the passage, the characters, the situation or the topic.
- Discuss the words, ideas, or actions of the author or character.
- Tell what the text reminds you of from your own experiences.
- Compare the text to other characters, novels, or articles.
- Write about what it makes you think or feel.
- Argue with or speak to the character or author.
- Make connections to any themes that are revealed to you.
- Make connections among passages or sections of the work.
- Make predictions about characters’ futures or the impact of the topic discussed in the text.

How long should each response be?

Each response must be at least 5-10 sentences long.

When should you complete your Reader's Response Journal entries?

Write down your thoughts, questions, insights, and ideas while you read or immediately after reading a chapter so the information is fresh. **The final journal entries must be typed.**

Is using "I" allowed?

First person is acceptable for this assignment.

How will I be graded?

	Exemplary	Good	Adequate	Progressing
Passage	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Selects meaningful, detailed passages • Covers the entire text completely and thoroughly <p style="text-align: center;">5</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Selects meaningful passages • Covers the entire text <p style="text-align: center;">4</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Selects clear passages • Attempts to cover the entire text <p style="text-align: center;">3</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Passages are not selected with care/may seem random • May not attempt to cover the entire text <p style="text-align: center;">2</p>
Response	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Indicates thoughtful interpretation • Includes comments on form, style, literary elements, imagery, conflict, etc. & explains how each contributes to the text • Makes insightful connections • Asks thought provoking questions • Exceeds 7sentences • No usage errors <p style="text-align: center;">10</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Attempts thoughtful interpretation • Includes some comments about form, style, literary elements, imagery, conflict, etc. & explains how each contributes to the text • Makes external connetions • Asks questions • Meets the 5-7 sentence minimum requirement • May contain a few usage errors <p style="text-align: center;">9</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Attempts interpretation • Makes a few comments about form, style, literary elements, imagery, conflict, etc. & may or may not explain how each contributes to the text • Makes connections, some may be personal anecdotes • Asks questions • Meets the 5-7 sentence minimum requirement • May contain 3 or more usage errors or show 1 pattern of errors <p style="text-align: center;">8</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lacks interpretation; primarily summarizes the text • Makes limited comments about form, style, literary elements, imagery, conflict, etc. & may not explain how each contributes to the text • Asks simplistic questions • May not meet the 5-7 sentence minimum requirement • May contain numerous usage errors or consistent patterns of errors <p style="text-align: center;">7</p>
Overall	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Exhibits exemplary overall effort (neat, organized, all requested information is complete, easy to read and follow) <p style="text-align: center;">5</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Exhibits good overall effort (neat, organized, all requested information is complete) <p style="text-align: center;">4</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Exhibits effort (neat, organized, all requested information is complete) <p style="text-align: center;">3</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Exhibits minimal effort <p style="text-align: center;">2</p>
Total				_____ /20

Reader's Response Journal Template – English III

Student Name:

Book Title:

Author Name:

Entry	Passage	Response
1	(Expand area as necessary)	
2		
3		
4		
5		
6		
7		
8		
9		
10		