

Guidelines for the Double-entry Journal

A double-entry journal is a written conversation with yourself about a piece of literature that encourages the habit of reflective questioning. You will use a double-entry form to examine details of a passage and synthesize your understanding of the text.

This will be due on the first day of school. You should either complete this double-entry journal assignment OR the creative project--not both!

1. In the Text column cite passages verbatim from the novel, including quotation marks and page numbers (Page numbers are given in parentheses at the end of the quote.)

a. Choose 10 passages from your reading

i. Your passages should come from *all over* the book, not just one section.

b. What should you write?

i. Details that seem important to you

ii. You have a realization

iii. You learn something significant about a character

iv. You recognize a pattern (overlapping images, repetitions of ideas, etc.)

v. You agree or disagree with something a character says or does

vi. You find an interesting or potentially significant quotation

vii. You notice something important or relevant about the writer's style

viii. You notice effective use of literary devices

2. In the 'Analysis of Significance' column, reflect upon the passages.

a. Raise questions about the beliefs and values implied in the text

b. Give your personal reactions to the passage, the characters, the situation

c. Discuss the words, ideas, or actions of the author or character

d. Tell what it reminds you of from your own experiences

e. Compare the text to other characters or novels

f. Write about what it makes you think or feel

g. Argue with or speak to the characters or author

h. Make connections to any themes that are revealed to you

i. Make connections among passages or sections of the work

j. Make predictions about characters' futures

k. DO NOT MERELY SUMMARIZE THE PLOT

Each RESPONSE must be at least 60 words. Write the number of words in your response at the end of the response.

EXAMPLE:

Black Like Me by John Howard Griffin

Text (with page number)	Analysis of Significance
<p>“The completeness of this transformation appalled me. It was unlike anything I had imagined. I became two men, the observing one and the one who panicked, who felt negroid even into the depths of his entrails” (Griffin 11).</p>	<p>In many movies and books, people wake up and realize how old they truly are. I think that the people because he feels that he still a white man; but when this happens to feel the same as Mr. Griffin does he looks in the mirror, he notices that his skin color disagrees with his thoughts. Likewise, some people feel they are still young, but they are trapped in a body of a person who looks old to too different to be them. (85 words)</p>

To Kill a Mockingbird by Harper Lee

Text (with page number)	Analysis of Significance
<p>“You can just take that back, boy!’ This order, given by me to Cecil Jacobs, was the beginning of a rather thin time for Jem and me. My fists were clenched and I was ready to let fly. Atticus had promised me he would wear me out if he heard of me fighting any more; I was far too old and too big for such childish things, and the sooner I learned to hold in, the better off everybody would be. I soon forgot. Cecil Jacobs made me forget.” (74)</p> <p>“Somehow if I fought Cecil I would let Atticus down. Atticus so rarely asked Jem and me to do something for him. I could take being called a coward for him” (77).</p>	<p>Cecil insults Atticus because he’s defending Tom Robinson and Scout feels compelled to defend him in the school yard. Atticus has made her promise that she will not fight anymore because she’s too old for such childish behavior.</p> <p>This is a turning point for Scout as she has to walk away from a fight to keep her word to Atticus. She does not like it, but she does it for her father. (72 words)</p>

Rubric

Text Column

- Meaningful passage choices
- 10+ passages that come from different sections of the book
- Page numbers and quotation marks included

Response Column

- Thoughtful commentary and analysis
- Each response 60+ words
- Grammar and mechanics (punctuation, capitalization, spelling, etc.)

Text (with page number)	Analysis of Significance
