

Reading Notebook

Directions: Use a spiral notebook or composition book for your Reading Notebook. Leave the first page blank - this will become your Table of Contents. Please date and title each of your entries with the title of the piece and the author. You must also indicate which genre of literature the selected piece is (i.e. novel, nonfiction, poetry, essay, etc.). Each entry should be approximately one to two pages. You may use the back of a page to finish an entry, but each entry should begin on the front of a new page.

You must respond to each of the categories below. Remember, you will be writing a reaction to each piece of literature we read during the year. The Reading Notebook is a major on-going project and will be required every day for the class. I will collect it once a quarter at any time without warning, so be sure to keep the Table of Contents and entries well organized and current.

I. Diction and Allusions

- A. Note unfamiliar words and or allusions used by the author. Look them up prior to and during your reading of the selection.

II. Patterns

- A. Identify notable patterns of diction and syntax and how they affect the work. Explain how these patterns have certain connotations and/or how they develop the author's tone, persona, or appeals to ethos, logos, or pathos.
- B. For fiction, write a summary of the chapter or passage. For non-fiction note the way that the author develops his argument.
- C. For fiction, identify the key figures and explain how they are developing, changing or staying the same.

III. Analysis

- A. List the rhetorical strategies and figurative language that the author uses.
- B. Identify and explain the author's use of symbolism.
- C. Soaps-tone

IV. Annotations

- A. Annotate in your book or packet so that you are identifying key passages and the author's use of rhetorical strategies, figurative language, and symbolism that you listed in your analysis as well as circling unknown words and allusions and under lining patterns of diction and syntax.

V. Rhetorical Analysis

- A. Write a rhetorical analysis paragraph explaining how the author's use of the most significant strategies including syntax, diction, figurative language, symbolism, and allusions (as well as other devices you have learned) develop the author's overall purpose for the work. Be sure to cite at least **three** specific examples from your annotations in part IV.