

Summer Reading Journal

As you read, write your personal responses to the work. State your feelings, reactions, and questions about situations, ideas, actions, characters, setting, symbols, plot, theme, or any other elements of the work which interest you or mean something to you.

You cannot be wrong in your responses, so take risks and be honest. 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; relate your personal experiences which connect with the plot, character, or setting; try to relate it to other works you have read.

AVOID PLOT SUMMARY. Simply read, think, and write your thoughts.

The following is a list of suggested sentence lead-ins.

I wonder what _____ means. . .

I really don't understand this part because. . .

I really like/dislike _____ because. . .

This character reminds me of somebody I know because. . .

This character reminds me of myself because. . .

This character is like _____ in _____ because. . .

This scene reminds me of a similar scene in _____ because. . .

This part is very realistic/unrealistic because. . .

I like/dislike this style of writing because. . .

This section makes me think about _____ because. . .

This section is particularly effective because. . .

I think the relationship between _____ and _____ is interesting because. . .

The ideas here remind me of the ideas in _____ because. . .

This situation reminds me of a similar situation in my own life because. . .

If I were _____ at this point, I would. . .