

Rubric for Dialectical Journal

Critical Reader (detailed, elaborate responses)—**90-100:**

- Extra effort is evident.
- You include more than the minimal number of entries.
- Your quotes are relevant, important, thought provoking, and representative of the themes of the novel.
- You can “read between the lines” of the text (inference).
- You consider meaning of the text in a universal sense.
- You create new meaning through connections with your own experiences or other texts.
- You carry on a dialogue with the writer. You question, agree, disagree, appreciate, and object.
- Sentences are grammatically correct with correct spelling and punctuation.

Connected Reader (detailed responses)—**80-89:**

- A solid effort is evident.
- You include an adequate number of legible entries.
- Your quotes are relevant and connect to the themes of the novel.
- Entries exhibit insight and thoughtful analysis.
- You construct a thoughtful interpretation of the text.
- You show some ability to make meaning of what you read.
- You create some new meaning through connections with your own experiences and the text.
- You explain the general significance.
- You raise interesting questions.
- You explain why you agree or disagree with the text.

Thoughtful Reader (somewhat detailed responses)—**75-79:**

- You include an insufficient number of entries.
- Sentences are mostly correct with a few careless spelling and grammatical errors.
- You selected quotes that may be interesting to you, but that don’t necessarily connect to the themes of the novel.
- Entries exhibit insight and thoughtful analysis at times.
- You make connections, but explain with little detail.
- You rarely make new meaning from the reading.
- You ask simple questions of the text.
- You may agree or disagree, but don’t support your views.

Literal Reader (simple, factual responses)—**70-74:**

- You include few entries.
- Entries exhibit limited insight or none at all.
- You accept the text literally.
- You are reluctant to create meaning from the text.
- You make few connections which lack detail.
- You are sometimes confused by unclear or difficult sections of the text.

Limited Reader (perfunctory responses)—**below 70:**

- You include very few entries.
- Very little effort is evident.
- You find the text confusing, but make no attempt to figure it out.
- You create little or no meaning from the text.
- You make an occasional connection to the text, and the ideas lack development.
- Sentences contain numerous grammatical and spelling errors.