

AP ENGLISH LANGUAGE AND COMPOSITION RECOMMENDED READING LIST

Parents: Below you will find a list of engaging and well-written stories that represent a variety of genres. While we endeavor to choose books that are representative of appropriate content, age level, and maturity, we recommend each family research the suggested selections on the Recommended Reading List. You may find sites such as www.squeakycleanreviews.com, www.commonsemmedia.org, or www.thrivingfamily.com helpful as you discern the best publication for your student.

Students: Each student should read the **required book**, *The Scarlet Letter* and complete the Dialectic Journal **and then choose one other novel** from the Recommended List to simply read.

Selected Recommended Reading List for AP English Language and Composition

<i>Narrative of the Life of Frederick Douglass, an American Slave</i>	Douglass, Frederick
<i>Gone With the Wind</i>	Mitchell, Margaret
<i>Go Tell It on the Mountain</i>	Baldwin, James
<i>The Jungle</i>	Sinclair, Upton
<i>Uncle Tom's Cabin</i>	Stowe, Harriet Beecher
<i>The Grapes of Wrath</i>	Steinbeck, John
<i>The Last of the Mohicans</i>	Cooper, James Fenimore
<i>Walden</i>	Thoreau, Henry
<i>As I Lay Dying</i>	Faulkner, William
<i>A Farewell to Arms</i>	Hemingway, Ernest
<i>Ethan Frome</i>	Wharton, Edith
<i>Bridge of San Luis Rey</i>	Wilder, Thornton
<i>Moby-Dick</i>	Melville, Herman
<i>Native Son</i>	Wright, Richard

AP ENGLISH LANGUAGE AND COMPOSITION (CP and CPD)

Dialectical Journal Assignment (2016)

The term “dialectic” means “using the process of question and answer to investigate the truth of a theory or opinion.” The “dialectic” was the method Socrates used to teach his students how to be actively engaged in the struggle to obtain meaning from an unfamiliar and challenging work. A dialectical 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 format to examine details of a passage and synthesize your understanding of the text.

In this process, there is to be NO collaboration with other students. Any assistance from the internet, movies, or secondary sources such as Sparknotes, Cliff Notes, or Wikipedia will be

viewed as cheating. If you have questions about format, email your English teacher. These journals are due the first day of school, Wednesday, August 3, 2016.

Instructions:

1. Purchase a spiral bound notebook or composition book OR create a computerized response journal (see example).
2. Write the number of pages in your novel here _____. (Round up or down to the tenth's place.)
3. Divide your novel into ten (10) equal sections and write a response for every section. Example: 253 pages... $253/10=25$. This example shows you should write a response every 25 pages.)
4. Draw a vertical line down the middle of the page.
5. Label the left column TEXT and the right column RESPONSE
6. In the TEXT column, copy passages word for word from the novel, including quotation marks and page numbers; you should have TEN.
7. **How do you choose what passages to write down?** Passages become important if :
 - Details in the passage seem important to you
 - You have an epiphany (a moment in which you suddenly see or understand something in a new or very clear way)
 - You learn something significant about a character
 - You recognize a pattern (recurring images, ideas, colors, symbols, descriptions, details, etc.)
 - You agree or disagree with something a character says or does
 - You find an interesting or potentially significant quotation
 - You notice something important or relevant about the author's writing style
 - You notice effective use of literary devices
 - You think that the passage contributes to or reveals a theme in the novel
8. In the RESPONSE column, write about the passages. **DO NOT MERELY SUMMARIZE THE PLOT OR RESTATE THE PASSAGE IN YOUR OWN WORDS.**
9. **Label each passage with one of the following letters.** You may not use the same label more than once. (RE, CH, CO, P, LD, RF, T, M, I)
 - RE= Reaction=Describe what the passage makes you think or how it makes you feel and why
 - CH=Characterization= Analyze details or dialogue uses to show you aspects of the identities of the characters.
 - CO=Connection=Make connections to other places in the novel or to your life, or to the world, or another story that you have read.
 - P=Prediction=Anticipate what will occur based on what is in the passage.

10. Label Literary Device=LD=Analyze the author’s writing using literary terms (see list of possibilities below)

- RF=Reflect=Think deeply about what the passage means in a broad sense-not just to the characters in the story. What conclusions can you draw about the world, about human nature, or just about the way things are?
- T=Theme=Determine whether the passage contributes to the author’s overall message or messages about some aspect of life.
- M=Mood=Determine the way the passage establishes the mood or tone of a scene and explain how that might be important.
- I=Inquiry=Ask questions about what is happening, what a detail might mean or things you are curious about.

11. Each response **must be at least 50 words** (include word count at the end of each response.) First person writing (using the pronoun “I”) is acceptable in the RESPONSE column.

Sample Journal Entry

TEXT	RESPONSE
<p>“The puddle had frozen over, and Cathy went stomping in it. The twins from next door, Tyrone and Terry, were swingin so high out of sight we forgot we were waitin our turn on the tire. Cathy jumped up and came down hard on her heels and started tap dancing. And the frozen patch splinterin every which way underneath was kinda spooky. ‘Looks like a plastic spider web, ,’ she said. ‘A sort of weird spider, I guess, with many mental problems’” (35.)</p> <p>NOTE the quotation marks, punctuation, and MLA format</p>	<p>(CH) In this first paragraph of the story, Bambara indirectly characterizes the narrator using rural Southern dialect to let us know that the story is set in the South and our narrator is not necessarily educated. We also learn that the characters are children from the activities the author describes.</p> <p>(LD)-I also like the imagery of the splintering puddle, which I guess also lets us know that it is winter. I also really like the “tapdancin.”</p> <p>The writer seems to be establishing a humorous and lighthearted mood at the beginning of the story. (94 words)</p> <p>NOTE word count: NOTE labeling of response type</p>

Literary Devices you can use for responses:

- Allusion**
- Antagonist**

Autobiography
Biography
Blank verse
Characterization
-static, flat, etc.
-direct, indirect
Conflict
Dialect
Diction
Epic hero
Fable
Foreshadowing
Genre: poetry, prose,
Drama
Hyperbole
Imagery
Irony-dramatic, verbal, situational
Metaphor
Meter
Mood
Oxymoron
Paradox Symbol
Personification
Plot: exposition, climax, resolution
Point of view (1st, 3rd, limited, omniscient)
Protagonist
Repetition
Rhyme
Setting
Simile
Subplot
Suspense
Tone Theme

Review of Requirements:

On the cover of your response:

_____ Write your name; title of book and author; page count for entire book

TEXT side of journal:

_____ You have ten excerpts from ten evenly spaced sections of the novel

_____ You have quoted and used quotation marks (watch placement of marks)

_____ Your citation has a page number and is according to MLA standards (see example)

RESPONSE side of journal:

_____ You have ten responses

_____ You have a variety of responses; labeled (RE, CH, CO, P, LD, RF, T, M, I)

_____Your response has word count; each must be at least 50 words.