

PVHS English Summer Reading Assignment 2019

All grade levels

Dialectical Journals

Directions: For your grade-specific summer reading book, please complete **three dialectical journals**. Be ready to turn these in on the first day of school, **typed**. You will also be submitting these to turnitin.com the first week of school. This is **only for your grade-level book**, not for the school-wide reading book (*Just Mercy*).

How to do a dialectical journal:

A dialectical journal is your written conversation with the author of an interesting text: it's as if the author were reading his/her text aloud and pausing to hear you respond aloud. The author says something interesting, and then you say what you think he/she means, and reflect on his/her words. Look for instances of characterization, ethos/pathos/logos, irony, or anything that catches your attention and makes you think. Your response should be an analysis of that passage. Explain the connections you've made, its importance in the story, and/or why that passage stood out to you.

Do not work with other students intentionally to produce the same passages and same responses.

Make this journal entirely your own.

Any assistance from the Internet, movies, other students, or secondary sources such as Sparknotes or Cliff Notes will be viewed as cheating. Get your quoted material from your own reading. Get your thoughts about the passages from your own mind.

Instructions:

1. Create a table with two columns.
2. Into the TEXT column, copy passages verbatim (word-for-word) from the novel. Use double-quotation marks only when someone is speaking. Note: copy the passage exactly the way it appears in the book, and you will be fine!
3. Include page numbers.
4. In the RESPONSE column, write your analysis of the passage. Remember, an analysis is NOT a summary. Don't rewrite what is already written in the text column. Write what you think about the passage.

Each RESPONSE must be at least 50 words.

Read below for a strong example and a weak example. The response column points out (in all caps) why the response is strong/weak. You do not need to put the all-caps portion in your response.

TEXT	RESPONSE
<p>Strong example (analysis of character, etc..)</p> <p>"Oh." Jonas was silent for a minute. " Oh, I see what you mean. It wouldn't matter for a newchild's toy. But later it <i>does</i> matter, doesn't it? We don't dare to let people make choices of their own."</p> <p>"Not safe?" The Giver suggested.</p> <p>"Definitely not safe," Jonas said with certainty. "What if they were allowed to choose their own mate? And chose <i>wrong</i>?"</p> <p>(page 102)</p>	<p>(BRIEF RECAP) Here, Jonas has just begun his training as The Receiver. We see him begin to understand why the society he lives has decided to restrict all individual decision-making.</p> <p>(ANALYSIS OF CHARACTER) Jonas is still in the mindset of a follower; he wants to be told what to do because he believes that the elders have everyone's best interests at heart. Although the society does function well and is safe, the elders maintain complete control of everyone by keeping people from making their own decisions.</p> <p>(MAKING CONNECTIONS AND PROVIDING MY OPINION) In our society, people are allowed to choose their own partners. Sometimes they do choose wrong, but they also choose right many times. This ability to choose is crucial because we need to be in control of our own lives. Mistakes happen, of course, but I don't think it's necessary to relinquish all of our personal freedoms for the sake of "safety" and a perfect society. I'd rather make my own mistakes and learn from them rather than let other people decide everything for me. There is a risk of being unhappy, but there is also the chance of finding happiness on my own. In <i>The Giver</i>, they don't get to experience true happiness since they don't have emotions and choice. I think it's better to have positive and negative emotions in life instead of no emotions at all.</p>
<p>Poor example (all summary)</p> <p>"Oh." Jonas was silent for a minute. " Oh, I see what you mean. It wouldn't matter for a newchild's toy. But later it <i>does</i> matter, doesn't it? We don't dare to let people make choices of their own."</p> <p>"Not safe?" The Giver suggested.</p> <p>"Definitely not safe," Jonas said with certainty. "What if they were allowed to choose their own mate? And chose <i>wrong</i>?"</p> <p>(page 102)</p>	<p>(REPEATING WHAT TEXT SAYS) Here Jonas receives a memory from the Giver. He learns why people aren't allowed to make their own choices in his society because it can be dangerous. For example, if they pick their own partner then they pick the wrong person.</p>