

2011 Bishop Chatard Summer Reading Projects for Incoming Freshmen

Assessment Option One Double Entry Journal

Task: Students will submit 20-25 quotes or passages from the text. Students will respond to each quote or passage by writing a 3-5 sentence reflection. As you read, keep a record of your reflections in a double-entry journal. A double-entry journal is a two-columned notebook entry. The left side is for recording your quotes/passages. The right column is for your personal follow-ups and reflections based on each quote or passage you selected. Each entry must include a page number as a reference. Your responses should be analytical and critical (look for the deeper meaning). Do not simply record general observations or summaries. This is an exercise in thinking and writing reflectively and analytically about the text.

Examples of responses:

- a description of why this quotation is important or relevant to you
- an inference about the writer's life or culture from the text
- a comment on the effect of the structure of the text (that is, the way the story is told)
- analysis on the effect of diction (word choice) made by the author
- an inference about the speaker in the text (the speaker is frequently not the author)
- a comment on the traits of a character or the growth of a character
- an idea or universal truths found in the text
- a thought on the message or theme that the author is trying to convey
- a reason for agreeing or disagreeing with the author
- a comparison and/or contrast of a passage with another book or character
- a prediction based on evidence from the text
- a question generated as a result of reading
- an explanation of a positive or negative personal reaction
- an evaluation of the tone in the text
- an observation of figurative language or imagery and its effects
- new and unknown vocabulary, followed by definitions that you have found

Here are examples of Double Entry Diary from the first section of *Pirate Diary* (Below there are 6 entries.)

Quote: "My family came to the American Colonies from England." (p. 5)	Inference/Question: We know from our studies of Colonial America that many colonists fled England because they did not have religious freedom. Others came because the farmland was free or cheap. I wonder why Jake's family came to America?
Quote: "It is the third year of the reign of our good King George, and the tenth of my life." (p. 5)	Reaction: Jake is ten years old like a lot of you. Jake calls King George "good." I wonder if he and his family are loyal to the King.
Quote: "...if you can put up with old Captain Nick!" (p.7)	Connection: This makes me think that Captain Nick is not such a pleasant person, maybe he's disgruntled and cruel. I wonder if something ghastly happens because of this Captain Nick?
Quote: "Candles are permitted only inside a horn lantern, which protects the ship against fire" (p. 10)	Inference: I imagine with the entire ship made of wood and rope, sailors must be very careful to prevent fire on the ship. I wonder where they store the gun powder, and how safe that is?
Quote: "Abraham at last answered my questions about the cargo. Apart from the fish, all of it is contraband, which is to say, smuggled goods." (p. 13)	Reaction: I like the way the author explained this word in the context of the story. Contraband=smuggled goods.
Effect: Many American Colonists didn't think they "should have to pay taxes..." (p. 13)	Cause: Because they had an "English king who cares nothing about us and gives us no say in the way our affairs are run..." (p. 13) Thus the saying, "No taxation without representation."