

Guidelines For Your Reading/Thinking Journal

To give you greater opportunity to become proficient and even advanced readers and thinkers, you will no longer write the daily reading responses in the way you did first semester. The new system will be easier to manage and also more effective in helping you mature as a reader and thinker. Here's how it will work.

- You will use your Reading/Thinking Journal during class. Put at least thirty (30) pages of blank paper in the Journal. Write your classroom entries directly in your R/T Journal. Place your **name and the date** in the **upper right corner** and continue to write **title, author, pages read, and minutes read** on the **first three lines**. **Skip** a line before beginning your response.
- Keep blank paper in your **NOTEBOOK** behind the **Reading Response Divider**. This is where you will write your entries when not in class. On the last day of the week, you will transfer these entries to your R/T Journal, placing them behind the divider page.
- Put a post-it tab on the one entry you think is your most thoughtful, best-written, or that you most want me to read each week (I will eventually read ALL of them, but you may want some immediate feed-back). On any day, if you want me to read an entry right then, leave me a post-it note on the cover. There's nothing I enjoy more than reading my students' deeper thinking about their reading.
- The Rubric shows you how your grade will be determined. Please notice there is no answer to the question, "How long does it have to be?" After you study the Rubric, perhaps you can figure out why this is not a relevant question.
- Until you are confident enough about what to write to come up with your own ideas, continue to use the prompts on the various handouts on writing reading responses.

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