

Summer Reading Assignment

DIALECTICAL JOURNAL

Advanced English 1 | 2021-2022

For your summer assignment, you will read the book ***Between Shades of Gray*** by Ruta Sepetys and respond to the text by writing responses in a dialectical journal.

*****DUE DATE: The 1st Day of Class (A-Day: August 18 or B-Day: August 19) *****

The term “dialectic” means “the art or practice of arriving at the truth by using conversation involving question and answer.” Think of your dialectical journal as a series of conversations with the texts you read. The process is meant to help you develop a better understanding of the text as you read it. Use your journal to incorporate your personal responses to the texts, your ideas about the themes, and your evaluations of the texts’ rhetoric. You will find that it is a useful way to process what you are reading, prepare yourself for group discussions, and analyze the way the authors present their ideas and arguments.

PROCEDURE:

*****Note:** *The procedure will refer to a chart; the template for that chart may be found in our Google Classroom (see below).*

- As you read *Between Shades of Gray*, choose passages that stand out to you and record them in the left-hand column of the chart (ALWAYS include page numbers).
- In the right column, write your response to the text (ideas/insights, questions, reflections, and comments on each passage).
 - You must label your responses using the following codes:
 - **(Q) Question** – ask about something in the passage that is unclear
 - **(C) Connect** – make a connection to your life, the world, or another text
 - **(P) Predict** – anticipate what will occur based on what’s in the passage
 - **(CL) Clarify** – answer earlier questions or confirm/disaffirm a prediction
 - **(R) Reflect** – think deeply about what the passage means in a broad sense – not just to the characters in the story/author of the article. What conclusions can you draw about the world, about human nature, or just the way things work?
 - **(E) Evaluate** - make a judgment about what the author is trying to say
 - **(A)Analyze** – explain how the author is using rhetoric and language to make point and persuade the audience
- Your dialectical journal should have no less than TEN (10) well-developed entries and cover the entire book – two from the beginning, two from the middle, two from the end, and four anywhere in between - minimum!
- Dialectical journals must be typed in 12 pt. font or hand-written using a blue or black ink pen with no markings or mistakes.

Please join our Google Classroom for additional resources and information. This will include a sample for your reference, grading rubric, resources for getting the book if you cannot buy it, and the template chart for your assignment. This is not required but extremely helpful! :)

Class Code: jdmlo3v

If you have any questions, please first join and consult Google Classroom as there will be running FAQ section. And of course, you can always email me (it may just take me a little bit to get back to you!). I look forward to reading your work!

Ms. Antillon

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CHOOSING PASSAGES FROM THE TEXT:

Look for quotes that seem significant, powerful, thought provoking or puzzling. For example, you might record:

- Effective &/or creative use of stylistic or rhetorical devices
- Passages that remind you of your own life or something you have seen before
- Structural shifts or change of rhetorical mode
- A passage that makes you realize something you had not seen before
- Examples of patterns: recurring images, ideas, words.
- Passages with confusing language or unfamiliar vocabulary
- Information you find surprising or confusing
- Passages you strongly agree or disagree with
- Passages that make a comment on or highlight something interesting about the human condition
- Passages that you feel makes a comment on society (think about the setting and relate it to your real world!)

RESPONDING TO THE TEXT:

You can *respond* to the text in a variety of ways. The most important thing to remember is that your observations should be **specific and detailed**. You can write as much as you want for each entry; however, you are expected to write at *least* five to seven sentences in response.

Basic Responses

- Raise questions about the beliefs and values implied in the text
- Give your personal reactions to the passage
- Discuss the words, ideas, or actions of the author
- Tell what it reminds you of from your own experiences
- Write about what it makes you think or feel
- Agree or disagree with the author

Sample Sentence Starters:

I really don't understand this because...

I really dislike/like this idea because...

I think the author is trying to say that...

This passage reminds me of a time in my life when...

This part doesn't make sense because...

The author is trying to

Higher Level Responses (*what earns you a higher grade!*)

- Analyze the text for use of rhetorical devices (tone, structure, style, imagery)
- Make connections between different ideas or events in the text
- Make connections to a different text (or film, song, etc...)
- Discuss the words, ideas, or actions of the author
- Consider an event or description from the perspective of a different individual
- Analyze a passage and its relationship to the book or world as a whole