

Rising Grade 7: Summer Reading Instructions

For your next book report, you will need to obtain and read one of the following books:

- * *Stargirl* by Jerry Spinelli,
- * *A Mango-Shaped Space* by Wendy Mass,
- * *Rules* by Cynthia Lord,
- * *Peak* by Roland Smith,
- * *Gossamer* by Lois Lowry, OR
- * *Turtle in Paradise* by Jennifer L. Holm.

You will be given a composition book for this activity, with examples of sentence starters taped on its cover, to help you write double-entry journal responses.

As you read, you will write a double-entry response journal.

Directions for the Double-Entry Journal:

1. On each page of your journal, create two columns. Label the first, "What the Text Says" and the second, "My Response."
2. You may write more than one response on each page, provided they are neat and organized. It is best to use a box for each of your responses, like the example shown below.
3. You will do at least 15 entries.
4. Each entry should be neat, accurate, and in complete sentences.
5. On the left side of your double-entry journal, copy exactly a quote from the book. *You should pick a quote that is key to the passage, that helps develop the theme(s) of the book, or one that is interesting to you or that presents a problem or character trait.*
6. Remember to add quotation marks around your quote, and copy your quote exactly as written. This means you will need to start a new line and indent for new paragraphs, and include punctuation and spelling exactly as written in the original.
7. At the end of your quote, remember to add parenthesis and include the page number or numbers where you found that quote inside those parenthesis. This is called *citation*, which we did for your research paper this year.

8. Your quote should be at least two sentences.
9. On the right side of your double-entry journal, reflect and respond to your chosen quote. You may write about what you think it means; what effect it has on the plot, characters, or setting; or any questions it prompts you to ask. On the front of your composition book is a set of sentence starters to help you respond. You may use any of them, as often as you like.
10. Your response should be at least two complete sentences. Remember I am looking more for *substance, thought, and reflection* than length or correct grammar or spelling. Follow the 3:1 rule—for each quote, try to pull 3x the amount of thought in your writing. This means you must read and select quotes that strike you as meaningful, or that resonate with you somehow!

Sentence Starters for the Right Side of Your Double-Entry Journal:

"I think the author is saying that . . ."

"I had a similar conflict/situation when . . ."

"The author created a _____ mood in these sentences by . . ."

"This passage makes me think of . . ."

"These sentences remind me of a time when . . ."

"This relates to another book/story I've read where _____ because . . ."

"I am confused about _____ because . . ."

"I thought _____ about _____, but now my thinking has changed, because . . ."

"I wonder why . . ."

"I infer . . ."

Example of a Double-Response Journal from Pam Muñoz Ryan's *Esperanza Rising*:

What the Text Says	My Response
<p>"Shhh,' he said. 'You can only feel the earth's heartbeat when you are still and quiet.'</p> <p>"She swallowed her laughter and after a moment said, 'I can't hear it, Papi.'</p> <p>"<i>Aguántate tantito y la fruta caerá en tu mano,</i>' he said. 'Wait a little while and the fruit will fall into your hand. You must be patient, Esperanza.'" (2).</p>	<p>I wonder if Esperanza will be patient enough to do as her father says, and I wonder if her father is just pulling her leg, or if the earth really has a heartbeat. I think that is so cool—to think our Earth has its own heartbeat, its own life. It makes sense, especially to farmers and people who live off the fruit of the land, to be closer to the Earth and to think of it like a living being. I like how he switches languages.</p>

How You Will Be Graded:

1. Each entry shall be worth 6 points: 4 for your response's thoughtfulness and completion, and 2 points for accurately quoting the text. Remember that accurately quoting means to include paragraph spaces and/or indentations. Total possible: 90 pts.
2. 10 additional points can be earned for having a neat, thorough journal that followed these directions. Overall total: 100 points.

Enjoy!!