

responses through discussion. You will also find that your journals can be helpful in writing literary analysis of the text.

SAMPLE Dialectical Journal for *Bless Me, Ultima*

Quotation from the Text

1. "She took my hand, and I felt the power of whirlwind sweep around me. Her eyes swept the surrounding hills and through them I saw for the first time the wild beauty of our hills and the magic of the green river. My nostrils quivered as I felt the song of the mockingbirds and the drone of the grasshoppers mingle with the pulse of the earth." (12)

Commentary/Responses to the Text

1. The imagery reveals Tony's sense of the earth around him. As Ultima touches his hand, he is drawn into what seems to be a new and wondrous universe. This powerful experience makes Tony think that Ultima knows his fate and that they will be close. It can be inferred that their relationship will be a significant part of the novel.

SAMPLE for *To Kill a Mockingbird*

Quotations from the text

1. "He might have hurt me a little,' Atticus conceded, 'but son, you'll understand folks a little better when you're older. A mob's always made up of people, no matter what. Mr. Cunningham was part of a mob last night, but he was still a man. . . So, it took an eight-year-old child to bring 'em to their senses didn't it?'" (159 – 160)

Commentary/Response to the Text

1. The tone here is matter-of-fact. Atticus admits that Mr. Cunningham could have harmed him, but he explains that Mr. Cunningham's actions were not entirely his own; he was influenced by the crowd as is common for many people. It takes Scout recognizing him and talking to him to make Mr. Cunningham realize that what he is doing is wrong.

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Titles to be read (in any order):

The Great Gatsby by F. Scott Fitzgerald

I Heard the owl Call My Name by Margaret Craven

You will need a copy of each title for classroom use during the first weeks of school.

Include at least 10 entries for each book.

Please send one reading log to Mrs. Susan Stinespring at Trinity Christian School, 200 Trinity Way, Morgantown, WV 26505 by July 15. Bring the other reading log on the first day of school.