

## Grade 12 Summer Reading

Summer 2009

Students in all grade 12 honors English classes must read two books over the summer, and, for each book, complete a dialectic response paper with six entries. These dialectic response papers are due the second day of school, Aug. 27<sup>th</sup>. If you have English first semester, please submit both papers (with the rubric stapled to one of them) to your English teacher the second day of school (Aug. 27<sup>th</sup>). If you have English second semester, please submit them both (with the rubric stapled to one) to the drop off box located outside the English office, Office A3 (located in Red Hall near the Health Office) the second day of school (Aug. 27<sup>th</sup>).

Regardless of which semester a student has English, the papers must be handed in by **2:30 pm** on day two of school (Aug. 27<sup>th</sup>) or receive a grade of zero (0). The books for each senior honors English class are listed below.

**Humanities Honors** - *Galapagos* by Kurt Vonnegut, *Oedipus Rex* by Sophocles

**Literature and Composition Honors** - *The Handmaid's Tale: A Novel* by Margaret Atwood, *The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time* by Mark Haddon

**Science Fiction and Fantasy Honors** - *Dune* by Frank Herbert, *The Speed of Dark* by Elizabeth Moon

### Dialectic Response Instructions (complete a set for each book)

1. Include 6 responses.
2. Set the paper up in two columns with 1/3 and 2/3 columns. See sample below.
3. For each of the six responses, include the quotation from the text with the page number. Choose quotations that are meaningful and important to the story and represent a complete point. Quotations can come from narrative or dialogue.
4. Use correct grammar and mechanics, and write in complete sentences.
5. Do not summarize/tell what the quotation means. Comment on the quotation, how it applies to your life, whether you agree or disagree with the quotation, how it connects to the outside world or other books. Each response must be 6 - 8 sentences long and contain two of the following: analysis, reflection, insight, connections to your own life, connections to the outside world, connections to other sources (texts, movies, world events).
6. Complete the responses as you read; do not wait until you finish the book. Make sure that the 6 responses represent the entire book: 2 for the first third of the book, 2 for the middle third, and 2 for the final third.
7. Refer to the sample below, and set up your responses in the same format. This sample is from the freshmen book *Night*.
8. Refer to the rubric on the back of this sheet.
9. Remember to staple the rubric to your response when you hand in the assignment.

John Doe  
*Night*

P. 61 The three victims mounted together onto the chairs. The three necks were placed at the same moment within the nooses. "Long live liberty!" cried the two adults. But the child was silent.

p. 78 We could both stay in the hospital where I could ...get (my dad) entered as a patient. Or else we could follow the others.... I learned after the war the fate of those who had stayed behind in the hospital. They were quite simply liberated by the Russians two days after the evacuation.

I can't believe that people in the concentration camps had the bravery to symbolically praise liberty when there was death all around them. They shouted this as they were being hanged! I would like to think that I could be as courageous, but I don't think that I would. Obviously, their dying words are meant for those around them to instill a will to fight against the tyranny. I am reminded of Patrick Henry who is immortalized with his words "give me liberty or give me death." He is viewed as a hero. The poor INNOCENT child who is being hanged does not have the life experiences to understand how moving these final words are to the other prisoners who are being forced to view the executions. We the readers truly benefit from these words.

Talk about irony. We just learned about irony while reading this book, but this passage really made me understand the term. Elie Wiesel opted to run/walk 42 miles on his foot which was operated on two days before because he thought he would be killed if he stayed. And what happened? If he had stayed, he would have been rescued by the Allies. I learned about the Holocaust in social studies, but I never really FELT the horror, shame, fear, and frustration of this event until I read this book. The words are seared on my soul; I will never be the same after reading this book! I literally threw the book across the room when I read this part.

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# Dialect Response Rubric

## **General format**

2 column format is used, rubric is included, title of book is included, student name is included	10
1 OR 2 missing from list above	5
More than 2 requirements from list above are not met	0

## **Text quotations**

6 quotations included, each quotation encapsulates a complete point, every quotation includes the page number, every quotation is a meaningful and important part of the story	20
1 missing from list above	10
2 missing from list above	5
3 or more missing from list above	0

## **Responses - format**

6 responses included, every response is 6 - 8 sentences long, every response is written in complete sentences, there are 2 responses from the beginning of the book, 2 from the middle, and 2 from the end	20
1 missing from list above	10
2 missing from list above	5
3 or more missing from list above	0

## **Responses - content**

Each of the 6 responses includes two of the suggested connections: analysis, reflection, insight, connections to your own life, connections to the outside world, or connections to other sources (texts, movies, world events).	35
Most of the 6 responses includes two of the above list of connections	25
Some of the 6 responses includes two of the above list of connections	15
One or two of the 6 responses includes two of the above list of connections	5
Responses are minimal and/or do not make connections	0
<b>Grammar/Mechanics</b>	
Responses have few grammatical and/or mechanical flaws	15
Responses have a moderate number of grammatical and/or mechanical flaws	10
Responses have a serious number of grammatical and/or mechanical flaws	5
Responses contain an excess of grammatical and/or mechanical flaws	0