

### Double-Entry Journal

One of the best ways to engage with a literary text (story, novel, poem, play) is to have a conversation with it or its author. The DOUBLE-ENTRY JOURNAL allows you to do just that, and it can be used for many purposes, from getting more deeply into the text or passages from it for class discussion or short assignments all the way to generating ideas for analytical papers.

You can format your journal on computer, as below, creating a table with one row and two columns. Or, you can hand write it.

Below are several, but by no means all, ways to use a DOUBLE-ENTRY JOURNAL. On the left, you always put a significant quote from the text, but on the right side, you can choose from several different possible responses to the quote: You can do visual commentary, reactions, connections, significance of quote to the text as a whole, social questions, naming literary techniques, imitations or parodies of a text's content or style, passages relating to a possible thesis statement or theme. Again, you can choose whatever responses styles you want to.

Summer Assignment: You must do your own double entry journal for your novel of choice. Please do **at least 15-20** entries that cover the beginning, middle, and end of the novel; your quotes should show that you have read the entire novel and that you did not attempt to use Spark Notes, etc. Choose carefully what quotes you want to use and take time with your analysis. I am not interested in plot summary or basic thinking. You will instead be graded based on insightful critical analysis, the creativity of your thinking, the quality of the quotes you've selected, and the amount of perceived effort you put into this double entry journal. In general, you want your double entry journal to show me that you "get" this novel and that you've thought deeply about the novel and its larger messages and possible impact! *This counts as a test grade.*

Left-Hand Side	Right-Hand Side
Quote from the text and page number	<u>Visuals</u> (drawings, visual analogies, doodles)
Quote from the text and page number	<u>Reactions/Reflections</u> ("This bugs, annoys, moves ....me because...."),
Quote from the text and page number	<u>Questions</u> ("I wonder if..."), ("Hmmm..."), ("I wonder why....") with possible answers ("Maybe because....")
Quote from the text and page number	<u>Connections</u> between: -text to other texts you've read or seen (print, visual, aural – television, movies, past books you've read, video games, etc.) - text to self (personal connections) - text to the world (larger world issues about human nature that the text makes you consider)
Quote from the text and page number	<u>Significance</u> in relation to piece as a whole; relating part to whole
Quote from the text and page number	<u>Analysis</u> of author's stylistic choices and possible connections to theme: discussing the significance of syntax, sentence structure, word choice (diction), symbolism, literary devices (similes, metaphors, etc.)

