



Literary Thinking

Choose one of these questions to answer in your second paragraph of the reading response journal. All answers should be elaborated with details and evidence from the text. Be sure to use at least one piece of textual evidence from your book (two would be ideal).

1. Choose a character in your novel. What role did he/she play? Why was this character so important to the story?
2. Whose point of view is missing in your novel? How do you think the story would change or be enriched by this character's perspective?
3. Describe a place in your novel where a character made a decision that impacted others. Was the character right or wrong in making the decision? How so?
4. Which character do you most empathize with? Explain how.
5. What is a main character's biggest flaw? What role does this flaw play in the plot of your novel? Explain.
6. What song lyric does your novel make you think of? How are the two similar in themes, mood, and/or tone?
7. Is there a movie or another book that has the same themes as your novel? Describe the ways they are different as well as similar.
8. What is the author trying to teach through this novel? Should the reader believe what he or she is trying to teach? Why? Why not?
9. Do you think this story is an important one to read/teach in our society? Why or why not?
10. Would this story have been different if it had been set in a different time period? A different culture? Why or why not?
11. What mood does the novel give? What words did the author use to get the reader to feel this mood? Why do you think the author wanted the reader to feel this way?
12. Are the events that occur in your novel realistic? Do they parallel real life in any way? Why or why not?
13. Did you agree with how the author chose to end the novel? Why? If not, how should the novel had ended?
14. What is the most important theme in your novel? Why does this theme deserve the label "most important?" What makes it stand out above your novel's other themes?
15. What is a reoccurring symbol, image or idea in your novel? Why do you think the author choose this as a motif? Explain.
16. Did this book make you laugh? Cry? Cringe? Smile? Cheer? Explode? Explain your reactions with details from the text.
17. What was the author saying about life and living through this book? Explain.
18. Did you like the ending of the book? Why or why not? Do you think there is more to tell? What do you think might happen next?
19. What do you feel is the most important word in the book? The most important passage? The most important element (an event, a character, a feeling, a place, a decision)? Why is it important? Explain with details.
20. What character would you like to be in the book? Why? What personality traits of this character would you like to acquire? Explain with details.