English Language Brunswick School Department Arts English II Reader Response Journals

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Essential Understandings	 Good readers can read beyond the text and make connections to their own experience through writing personal responses.
Essential Questions	 How do characters in a story relate to your life? How do the experiences in the story connect to you? What insights do you gain into the way life works, or why characters act the way they do?
Essential Knowledge	 Understand "insight" as a main idea or purpose. Characters grow and change within a work. Background on time period and culture of the story.
Vocabulary	 Terms: theme as insight into the way life works dynamic and static characters cultural terms related to the literature; e.g. Holocaust
Essential Skills	 Incorporate quotes and key ideas from the book with the student's own ideas or applications with parenthetical documentation. Articulate how the student's opinions, thoughts, and feelings relate to the experience developed in the story. Write paragraphs which develop and support the student's insights.
Related Maine Learning Results	English Language Arts B. Writing B1.Interconnected Elements Students use a writing process to develop an appropriate genre, exhibiting an explicit organizational structure, perspective, and style to communicate with target audiences for specific purposes. a. Locate, summarize, and synthesize information from primary and secondary sources, as necessary. b. Apply aspects of various genres for rhetorical effect, strong diction, and distinctive voice. c. Revise drafts to improve synthesis of information from sources, ensuring that the organizational structure, perspective, and style are effective for the targeted audience and purpose. d. d. Edit for correct grammar, usage, and mechanics. e. Create legible final drafts. B2.Narrative Students embed narrative writing in a written text when appropriate to the audience and purpose. a. Use diction, syntax, imagery, and tone to create a distinctive voice. b. Organize ideas in a logical sequence with effective transitions.

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Sample Lessons And Activities	 Night by Elie Wiesel Reader Response Journal Write thoughts and feelings at the end of each chapter; include a powerful quote from the book and a personal response to the character or situation in the story.
Sample Classroom Assessment Methods	 Revise and submit a final copy of nine journal pages.
Sample Resources	 Publications: Night by Elie Wiesel Children in the Holocaust and World War II: their secret diaries compiled by Laurel Holliday The Days of Auschwitz. Newsweek. January 16, 1995. I Remember: An Autobiography Text for High School Students by Francine G. Wacht Videos: The Last Days Steven Spielberg