

Name _____
Ms. Tozzi

Literature Response Notebook
AP Literature and Composition

Is literature important?

The overarching question we will be in exploring this year is: Is literature important? As part of our investigation, we will be reading and responding to a variety of literature each week.

Each week I will distribute a short piece of literature or article about literature. After reading the piece, you will respond in writing in your response notebook. You can make personal connections, connections to world or local events and issues or connections to other pieces of literature.

After writing your response, please staple the original piece of literature in your notebook. As we discuss the literature and responses, you may want to add notes to your own responses. Your notebooks will stay in our classroom and will be a great resource for your final exam.

Sometimes, we need a kick in the pen to get started with response writing. You may use the prompts and sentence starters below to start your responses. Please keep this sheet in the front of your notebook.

Tapping Prior Knowledge:

I already know that... This reminds me of... This relates to...

Asking Questions:

I wonder why...
What if...
How come...
How is it possible that...

Predicting:

I'll bet that...
I think...
If _____, then ...

Visualizing:

I can picture...

In my mind I see...

If this were a movie...

Making Connections:

This reminds me of...
I experienced this once when...
I can relate to this to other readings because... The argument here is similar to ____ because... Another example of ____ is...

Adopting an Alignment:

The character I most identify with is...
The idea I find most provocative is... I reject this author's view because...

Forming Interpretations:

What this means to me is...
I think this represents...
The idea I'm getting is...
One question that this text answers is...
One question that this text addresses is...

Monitoring:

I lost track of everything except...
I need to reread the part where...
I know I'm on the right track because...
A term or idea that was unclear to me was...

Revising Meaning:

At first I thought _____, but now I...
My latest thought about this is...
I'm getting a different picture here because...

Analyzing the Author's Craft:

A golden line for me is...
This word/phrase stands out for me because... I like how the author uses _____ to show...

Reflecting and Relating:

So, the big idea is...
A conclusion that I'm drawing is...
This is relevant to my life because...
This author is trying to make me (see, feel, know, do) ...
It makes a difference that this text was written because...

Evaluating:

I like/don't like _____ because...
This could be more effective if...
The most important message here is...
One big difference between this and _____ is...

New York City Writing Project, Institute for Literacy Studies. "Monitoring Our Reading."
NY: Lehman College, 2000.

C.B. Olson, The Reading/Writing Connection . Upper Saddle River, NJ: Allyn & Bacon, 2002.

WAC Faculty, Lehman College, Bronx, NY, 2005.