

Double-Entry Journal

“Double-Entry” simply means “dialoguing with or talking to your text!”

Formatting your entries:

Make journal pages by drawing a line down your notebook page 1/3 the width of the paper. Make another so there is a 1/2” column to put page numbers

- The Left Column – Copy direct quotes or facts. This side of the paper is for **factual** information. Things on this side of the paper come from the book.
- The Middle Column –Put the page number from where you got your information
- The Right Column – Record your own reactions, reflections, analysis and opinions on this side of the paper. These may include comments, reactions, objections, feelings, questions, theories, and new learnings. Things on this side of the paper come **out of your head**.

Tips and Tricks to Use with Students:

- Don’t procrastinate on doing your log. It is hard to log several chapters at one time. Keep it current.
- Read with a pen or highlighter. If you own the book, write important thoughts in the margins and then add it to the log when you finish.
- Less is not more. Don’t be afraid to add your personal thoughts to the right hand side. You cannot put too much in. Remember that the right hand side is for your thoughts. Record them all.
- Take time to write down anything in relation to the text. If you're intrigued by certain statements or if you're attracted to characters or issues or problems, write your response. Try to take at least five minutes to write and think just before you put your book down for a break. Make connections with other texts or concepts or events. Do you see any similarities between this text (concepts, events) and other texts (concepts, events)? Does it bring to mind other related issues?
- Try agreeing with the writer. Write down the supporting ideas. Try arguing with the writer. On what points, or about what issues, do you disagree? Think of your journal as a place to carry on a dialogue with the writer or with the text in which you actually speak with him or her. Ask questions; have the writer respond. What happens when you imagine yourself in his/her shoes?
- Write down striking words, images, phrases, or details. Speculate about them. Why did the author choose them? What do they add to the story? Why did you notice them?
- Describe the author's point of view. How does the author's attitude shape the way the writer presents the material?

<u>Facts and Quotations</u>	<u>Pg</u>	<u>Your thoughts and ideas</u>

