

Writing Journal Topics

Directions: You are to choose a topic and write for the first ten minutes of class every day. You may choose any of the topics given below even for *The Color Purple*. All entries must follow these format criteria:

1. Date each entry (2 points)
2. Number each entry (2 points)
3. Write the topic at the top of the page (2 points)
4. Follow the Five Sentence Format (2 hook, 1 introductory/overview sentence, 1 thesis statement, 3 main ideas, each with a supporting detail, and 1 concluding statement). (10 points)
5. Write 150-200 words. Include word count at the end of the paragraph. (2 points)

TOTAL: 18 points per entry.

These journals will be collected on the day of the final assessment for each novel.

Topics:

1. Choose one word to describe your character for the beginning, for the middle and for the end of the book. Be able to explain your choices.
2. What character(s) do you dislike? Why?
3. How are you like and unlike the main character?
4. What 3 qualities of the main character are good traits that you would like to develop in yourself? How does the main character demonstrate each quality?
5. Describe the main feeling that you had after reading the first third of the book, the second third and when you finished. Explain.
6. What incidents, actions or ideas in this book remind you of your own life or something that happened to you?
7. What parts of the book did you find confusing? Why do you think this happened? When were these sections clarified for you?
8. What are three opinions about "life or people" actions that the author is presenting in this work? Explain.
9. How is the title of this work significant? What does the title mean? When (what page) in the book did you realize this?
10. Give an alternate ending for the book and explain why you would change it.
11. Describe three reactions that you experienced while reading this book, explaining the situations that produced these reactions.
12. What feelings/feelings do you share with the main character? Explain.
13. Explain if this book brought closure to all characters and situations or if you feel "left hanging" at the end. How did it bring closure? Or what do you feel will need to be resolved?
14. What do you feel is the most important word, phrase, passage, or paragraph in this work? Explain.
15. If you were an English teacher what would be the value of having your students read this as a class assignment?
16. How does this book show the writer English themes? How exactly affects the individual?
17. Explain two moments of fear faced by the main character.
18. Explain two embarrassing moments for the main character.

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