



## The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-time

### Reader Response/Dialectical Journal

You will complete the following log WHILE reading *The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-time*. When completed, you should have around 20 entries. Twenty is the absolute minimum number of entries you may have in order to receive full credit. Beyond number of entries, I am looking for QUALITY observations – aim for analysis not summary. Summary of key quotations will result in a poor grade. DO NOT PLAGIARIZE! The term “Dialectic” means “the art or practice of arriving at the truth by using conversation involving question and answer.” Think of this journal as a series of conversations with the texts we read. The process is meant to help you develop a better understanding of what you are reading. Use your journal to incorporate your personal responses to the texts, your ideas about the themes we cover and our class discussions.

- On your log, include the chapter and page number
- While reading your novel, look for quotations/passages that stand out as important or significant
- Analyze the quotation (what it means/why it’s important) and explain why you chose it
- Be sure the log covers chapters from the beginning, middle, and end of the novel
- Your log should contain 20-25 quotes/passages when completed
- Write legibly. If I can’t read it, I can’t grade it (ideally it should be typed).

Your log/journal should look like this when completed ... you may create in Google Doc or in Word. Use Times Roman, Arial, or Calibri fonts only. Your font should be between 10-12 in size, no smaller or no bigger!

Chapter and Page #	Copy of the Quotation	Detailed Analysis of the quotation. You may discuss any of the following: why line/quote is important. Figurative language or symbolism in the passage. What impact it has ... use of diction, conveyance of theme, tone, etc.
Chapter 2 page 20	“Almost every citizen in the community had dark eyes... But there were a few exceptions. Jonas himself, and a female Five who he had noticed had the different lighter eyes.”	What is significant about these eyes? Jonas’s are different from most. Does this mean he is different from most? Does this have something to do with Jonah’s assignment? What might Lowrey be telling us about this society?

#### WHEN CHOOSING PASSAGES FROM THE TEXT:

Look for quotes that seem significant, powerful, thought provoking or puzzling. For example, you might record:

- Effective &/or creative use of stylistic or literary devices
- Passages that remind you of your own life or something you’ve seen before
- Structural shifts or turns in the plot o A passage that makes you realize something you hadn’t seen before
- Examples of patterns: recurring images, ideas, colors, symbols or motifs.
- Passages with confusing language or unfamiliar vocabulary
- Events you find surprising or confusing
- Passages that illustrate a particular character or setting

#### WHEN RESPONDING TO THE TEXT:

You can respond to the text in a variety of ways. The most important thing to remember is that your observations should be specific and detailed. You can write as much as you want for each entry.

Basic Responses Include:

- Raise questions about the beliefs and values implied in the text
- Give your personal reactions to the passage

- Discuss the words, ideas, or actions of the author or character(s)
- Tell what it reminds you of from your own experiences
- Write about what it makes you think or feel
- Agree or disagree with a character or the author

**Sample Sentence Starters:**

I really don't understand this because...

I really dislike/like this idea because...

I think the author is trying to say that...

This passage reminds me of a time in my life when...

If I were (name of character) at this point I would...

This part doesn't make sense because...

This character reminds me of (name of person) because...

**SOME HIGHER LEVEL RESPONSES:**

This are the responses that will make your grade increase as you move past the comprehension level to more of the analysis level. You should try to incorporate these types of responses into your journal/log. These are the kinds that will boost your grade!

- Analyze the text for use of literary devices (tone, structure, style, imagery)
- Make connections between different characters or events in the text
- Make connections to a different text (or film, song, etc...)
- Discuss the words, ideas, or actions of the author or character(s)
- Consider an event or description from the perspective of a different character
- Analyze a passage and its relationship to the story as a whole