

Reading Journal Directions and Prompts

As you read books throughout the year, you need to write about them, too. This will deepen and improve your reading as well as your writing skills. For the journal, you need to write once a week on one of the prompts below, and your journal entry should be a CEAL paragraph between 80 and 100 words long (about half a page). Use a variety of prompts each trimester.

Standard	Prompt	T1	T2	T3
1	What is the most important part of the book? Provide evidence from the text to support your idea.			
1	What is the main idea of the book? Provide evidence from the text to support your idea.			
1	What is something you can infer, or figure out, about the characters or events or setting in your book? Explain.			
2	What is the theme, or message about life, of your book? Explain.			
2	How is the theme developed?			
2	Write an objective summary of the book.			
2	What is an important idea in your book? Explain how it is developed.			
3	How does the setting impact the characters or how do the characters impact the setting?			
3	How do the characters of the story impact each other?			
3	Explain and analyze other interactions between ideas, characters, events, or settings in your book. For example, how does setting impact plot?			
4	How do the words the author has chosen affect the meaning or tone of the text? Provide examples in your explanation.			
4	If there were new words in the text, list some of them and explain how you figured out their meanings (literal, figurative, and connotative).			
4	If you noticed some interesting figurative language (metaphor, simile, allusion, personification, etc.) explain it and explain how it impacts the text.			
5	Explain how different parts of the text contribute to the development of the whole.			
5	Explain how the form or structure of the text added to the meaning of the whole.			
5	How do the visuals in the text add to your understanding?			
6	How does the author develop the character(s)?			
6	How does the author develop different points of view of the characters?			
6	How does the author make his or her point of view about the subject or events clear in the text?			
6	What was the author's purpose in writing the text?			
7	If you have seen the movie of the book, compare and contrast it with the book.			
9	Compare and contrast the book to a historical account of the same event.			