

James S. Rickards High School
Pre-IB English 9 Summer Reading Assignment
Double-Sided Journal

Students enrolled in this advanced English course may read **one** of the following novels for extra credit. To receive credit, the student must select five passages from the novel and complete a double-sided journal for each entry. **To receive the extra credit, the assignment must be completed and turned on the second week of class. No late assignments will be accepted!**

You are expected to work individually on this assignment without collaborating with other students and without using research. The assignment should be your work and your work alone. Pre-IB prepares students for the rigors of the IB Diploma program and adheres to a strict honor code.

If you have questions regarding this assignment, you may contact Mr. Fiallos at fiallosj@leonschools.net

Reading Choices and Amazon Reviews/ Select from one of the following texts:

Things Fall Apart by Chinua Achebe - ISBN-10 : 0385474547 "A true classic of world literature . . . A masterpiece that has inspired generations of writers in Nigeria, across Africa, and around the world."

Animal Farm by George Orwell-ISBN-10: 1412811902 "*Animal Farm* is to this day one of the best attempts to criticize a totalitarian regime through the means that literature provides: the power of words. George Orwell (1903- 1950) wanted to help others to realize things that for him were evident, and attempted to do so by writing a fable that can easily be read as a satire of the Russian Revolution".

Lord of the Flies by William Golding -ISBN-10 : 0399501487 "Golding's iconic 1954 novel remains one of the greatest books ever written for young adults and an unforgettable classic for readers of any age."

Fahrenheit 451 by Ray Bradbury - ISBN-10 : 9781451673319 "Nearly seventy years after its original publication, Ray Bradbury's internationally acclaimed novel Fahrenheit 451 stands as a classic of world literature set in a bleak, dystopian future. Today its message has grown more relevant than ever before."

Girl With a Pearl Earring by Tracy Chevalier - ISBN-10 : 0452282152 "Tracy Chevalier transports readers to a bygone time and place in this richly-imagined portrait of the young woman who inspired one of Vermeer's most celebrated paintings."

Before We Were Free by Julia Alvarez - ISBN-10 : 0399555498 - "From renowned author Julia Alvarez comes an unforgettable story about adolescence, perseverance, and one girl's struggle to be free while living in the Dominican Republic under the rule of a dictator.

Their Eyes Were Watching God by Zora Neale Hurston - ISBN-10 : 0061120065 "A deeply soulful novel that comprehends love and cruelty, and separates the big people from the small of heart, without ever losing sympathy for those unfortunates who don't know how to live properly."

Assignment Details:

Double-Sided Journal Directions

A double-sided journal entry is a form of writing that allows students to respond to the text as they read. It encourages students to focus on a particular passage, and to critically analyze this passage to identify its overall significance to the text. **It is recommended that you complete the entries as you read.**

Each double-sided journal entry should be **type-written** using 12 point Times New Roman or Courier New font. Select **FIVE** passages (short paragraphs, snippets of conversation, etc.) that strike you as worthy of deeper analysis. **Each entry will be ½ to 1 page in length.**

The passages you choose should be significant to the plot, and be relevant to the novel as a whole. This will require careful selections on your part. Do not limit your passages to just the beginning, middle, and end; however, make sure the passages represent the novel in its entirety.

Divide your paper so that the left 1/3 contains the passage and the right 2/3 contains your response. Using a table may be easiest. Be sure to **cite the page number of your passage**. Each entry should include the following:

- Brief summary of what is going on at this point of the novel
- Reason for selecting this passage
- Reactions, beliefs, opinions about the passage
- Literary elements that you recognize in the passage. These include: character development (major/minor characters, static or dynamic); setting development; types of conflict (man v. man, man v. nature, man v. society, man v. himself); title references, title significance, novel arrangement (division of chapters, parts, etc.), narrative style, figurative language (metaphors, similes, allusions, personification, etc.) foreshadowing, flashbacks, point of view, tone, sentence structure, level of vocabulary, use of language, and theme.
- Predictions or expectations relating to the story

Assignment Example:

<i>Passage (and pg #)</i>	<i>Response</i>

SAMPLE DOUBLE-SIDED JOURNAL ENTRY

The Giver by Lois Lowry

Passage	Response
<p>Jonas listened, trying hard to comprehend. “And the sled?” he said. “It had that same thing: the color red. But it didn’t <i>change</i>, Giver. It just <i>was</i>.</p> <p>“Because it’s a memory from the time when color <i>was</i>.</p> <p>“It was so - oh, I wish language were more precise! The red was so beautiful!”</p> <p>The Giver nodded. “It is.”</p> <p>“Do you see it all the time?”</p> <p>“I see all of them. All the colors.”</p> <p>“Will I?”</p> <p>“Of course. When you receive the memories. You have the capacity to see beyond. You’ll gain wisdom, then, along with colors. And lots more.”</p> <p>Jonas wasn’t interested, just then, in wisdom. It was the colors that fascinated him. “Why can’t everyone see them? Why did colors disappear?”</p> <p>The Giver shrugged. “Our people made that choice, the choice to go to Sameness. Before my time, before the previous time, back and back and back. We relinquished color when we relinquished sunshine and did away with differences.” He thought for a moment. “We gained control of many things. But we had to let go of others.”</p> <p>“We shouldn’t have!” Jonas said fiercely.</p> <p>The Giver looked startled at the certainty of Jonas’s reaction. Then he smiled wryly. “You’ve come very quickly to that conclusion,” he said. “It took me many years. Maybe your wisdom will come much more quickly than mine” (95).</p>	<p>This passage appears in Chapter 12 - literally half way through the novel. Jonas is discussing with the Giver what this “change” is that he has been seeing. He has seen this “change” happen a few times; once with an apple, once while he was looking at a sea of faces, and once while he was observing his friend’s hair. The Giver reassures Jonas that this “change” that he is seeing is actually the color red - a quality that no one in the Community has the ability to appreciate except the Giver.</p> <p>I chose this passage because it marks a turning point in Jonas’ character. Although Jonas realizes he has been selected as the new Receiver of Memories, he has no idea what this “job” entails. The Giver points out that Jonas will continue to experience changes, as he will now be the keeper of the past. Up until this point Jonas has been special or separate from all others in the Community, but here is where Jonas acknowledges his distinction among all others.</p> <p>Lowry develops the innocence of Jonas’s character. “It was the colors that fascinated him.” Lowry reminds the reader that the person <i>selected</i> to be the Receiver of Memories is only a child - one who may not completely understand the role of the Receiver - and, one who may not be ready for the truth.</p> <p>The passage seems to hint at the early stages of conflict between man and society. Society’s “choice to go to sameness” is one that Jonas strongly opposes. By doing this, he questions the very foundation of the Community.</p> <p>This passage includes an example of foreshadowing. The Giver’s states that “You’ll gain wisdom, then, along with colors. And lots more.” This statement reveals that there are many more memories in store for Jonas, and the reader does not know whether they will all be pleasant (like the colors), or disturbing.</p> <p>Lowry introduces the struggle that all Receivers of Memories must face; in a community of sameness, they are different. This passage illustrates the novel’s theme of sameness and difference. Jonas and the Giver do not share the sameness of the Community; the memories they possess set them apart from the other members of the Community. In the earlier chapters, Lowry depicted Jonas as different from everyone. Now both the reader and Jonas understand the nature of his difference.</p>
<p>Summary/Prediction</p>	<p>I predict that the coming chapters will further develop Jonas’s conflict with the Community and that Jonas will embrace difference and reject the sameness of the Community.</p>