

## Guidelines and Grading Procedures for the AP English IV Course Journal

**Task:** Throughout the year you will be keeping a journal about the required reading. You will need to create your journal with a Composition Notebook, or you may choose to create a blog as the forum for your journal. To set up the blog, you may create it using a website like [www.wordpress.com](http://www.wordpress.com), [www.blogspot.com](http://www.blogspot.com) (eblogger), or [www.thoughts.com](http://www.thoughts.com).

### **Common Core Standards Assessed:**

Demonstrate command of the conventions of standard English grammar and usage when writing.

Use technology, including the Internet, to produce, publish, and update individual or shared writing products, taking advantage of technology's capacity to link to other information and to display information flexibly and dynamically.

**Duration:** You will be adding to your journal on a weekly basis throughout the course of the year.

**Format:** For each entry include the following information: title of book/story/article/poem, author's name, chapters and/or page numbers, and date.

### **Suggested Ideas for Reading Journals:**

1. Choose a quote(s) from the reading and comment on its meaning, significance, and/or impact on you as a reader. Be sure to indicate the page number of the quotes(s).
2. Comment on ideas, characters, or events in the reading that particularly caused you to reflect on your life and experiences.
3. Pinpoint significant issues/themes that have surfaced in your reading; comment on them.
4. Comment on one or more of the characters that you've encountered in the reading. For example, what did you think of them? What did you think of their relationship with others? How do they change/grow/develop? Why are they significant?
5. Write a letter to one of the characters about an issue, problem, or situation that has surfaced within the reading.
6. Respond to the reading with your own interpretation, such as a poem, essay, or short story. Then provide a brief 1- to 2-paragraph explanation of how your literary work represents your understanding of the reading.
7. Pretend that you are one of the characters, and write a "Dear Diary" entry related to an occurrence, issue, or conflict within the reading.

8. Sketch/draw a concept, character, or scene from your reading. Then include a 1-page written explanation of how that sketch/drawing represents your understanding of the reading.
9. Briefly summarize the reading selection and comment freely on what you have just read.

**Grading:** You will receive a grade for your journal at very end of the nine weeks. I will be looking at it during the course of the nine weeks and providing feedback.

**Your entries need to display the following characteristics:**

minimal grammatical errors;  
depth of thought; and  
evidence of reflection.

*Your journal will be worth 100 points each nine weeks.*