

Excerpt Journal(s)

Choose ten excerpts from throughout the book that illustrate important people, events, ideas, patterns, themes, and /or motifs from the period covered by your chosen book.

Format:

- Each excerpt must be a paragraph or more in length. Do not get cute and find a one-sentence paragraph! Each excerpt should be handwritten in a journal style with page number notation.
- After each passage, discuss the excerpt's place within the text and why you feel it is important. You should always think about the passage overall as well as the specific words used in the passage. Each discussion should be at least 200 words in length.

Requirements: Your name and passage attribution in the upper right hand corner, with each passage on a separate page -- lined, loose-leaf paper, in ink, one side of the paper only.

Remember: Handwritten only.

What excerpts should you choose?

- Certain details seem important to you.
- You have an epiphany. You know, an "Aha!" Moment.
- You learn something significant about a culture, country, person, event, **and** you can explain that significance.
- You recognize a pattern (overlapping images, repetitions of idea, details, etc.)
- You agree or disagree with something a historical figure says.
- You agree or disagree with something the author says.
- You find an interesting or potentially important quote.
- You notice something important or relevant about the writer's style.
- You notice effective use of literary devices or especially expressive language.

Grading:

- A** Detailed, meaningful passage selections; thoughtful interpretation and commentary about the text; includes comments about literary elements, vocabulary, sentence structure and style, and how these elements contribute to the meaning of the text; asks thought-provoking, insightful questions; coverage of text is complete and thorough; journal is neat, organized and readable; student has followed directions.
- B** Less-detailed, but good selections; some intelligent commentary about the text; includes some comments about literary elements, vocabulary, sentence structure and style, but less than how these elements contribute to the meaning of the text; asks some thought provoking, insightful questions; coverage of text is complete and thorough; journal is neat, organized and readable; student has followed directions.
- C** A few good details about the text; most of the commentary is vague, unsupported or simple summary/paraphrase; some listing of literary elements, vocabulary, sentence structure and style, but perhaps inadequate discussion; asks few or obvious questions; addresses most of the reading assignment, but not very thoroughly; journal is relatively neat; student has perhaps not followed all directions in formatting.
- D** Hardly any good details from the text; all notes are plot summary or paraphrase; few literary elements, vocabulary, sentence structure and style, virtually no discussion on meaning; no good questions; limited coverage of text/too short; did not follow directions; difficult to read/follow.
- F** No dialectical journal completed on day collected.