

**Millbrook High School**  
**Honors English 9 Summer Reading Assignment 2018**

Dear Rising Honors Students,

Congratulations! You have chosen the challenge of Honors English.

As an Honors English 9 student, you can expect enrichment and opportunities for challenge not available in the regular classroom. Your teachers expect you to be self-motivated, well organized, and willing to take academic and creative risks.

Our summer reading book is *To Kill a Mockingbird* by Harper Lee. You can pick up a copy of the book in the Millbrook office, or you may prefer to buy your own. It is always nice to be able to mark the text of your own copy. The **assignment is due on the first day you attend your English class.**

If you have questions over the summer, you can email us at our Frederick County addresses listed below. We look forward to meeting everyone and having a year full of discovery and academic growth. Have a great summer.

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**Assignment:**

- 1) Read the novel.
- 2) Complete a dialectical journal to encourage critical thinking.

**Dialectical Journal Assignment**

One method to get more involved with a text is through the use of a dialectical journal. The term dialectical comes from the Greek *dialektos*, meaning “ conversation; discussion.” As we read, whether or not we realize it, we have a “ conversation “ with the text and ourselves. This assignment will allow you to explore those conversations and assure that you are actively participating in making meaning of what you read. This journal will facilitate a deeper understanding of the novel, and will prepare you for class activities when we return to school.

**How To Create Your Journal**

Create a table that includes two columns. One column will be labeled “**Text**” and the other column labeled “**Response.**” There is a sample table included for you. As you read, you will record important quotes in the “ Text” column. What types of quotes should you be looking for? Look for quotes that seem significant, powerful, thought provoking, or puzzling. The following will help you identify passages that are “ quote worthy.”

- A quote can be narration or dialogue
- Passages that you think help us understand the larger ideas or deeper meanings that run throughout the book. (Themes)
- Passages that help us get inside a character's head and help us understand motives for actions (Characterization)
- Passages that use imagery to help us visualize
- Passages where you recognize a symbol or repetition of ideas
- Passages that you find confusing- Ask a question to the author
- Passages that you can make a connection to your life or another text
- Passages where you have an “ Ah ha” moment and see something you didn’t see before

Remember to include an in-text citation for each quote. (Sample included with dialectical format.) In the “ Response column, record your responses to the quotes you have chosen. Your responses should be **specific and detailed.** This is your *own personal* experience with the text. There is no right or wrong answer, rather you are gaining experience in reading a novel with a critical eye .

**Assignment Details:**The journal is due the first day you Honors 9 class meets.The required entries are as follows:

- Four journal entries for Ch.1-5
- Two journal entries for Ch. 6-8
- Three journal entries for Ch.9-11
- Three journal entries for Ch. 12-15
- Three journal entries for Ch. 16-19
- Three journal entries for Ch. 20-24
- Three journal entries for Ch.25-28
- Three journal entries for Ch. 29-31

**Sample Dialectical Journal Entries  
(Chapters 1-5)**

Text	Response
<p><b>Quote 1:</b>            “There was no hurry, for there was nowhere to go . . . nothing to see outside the boundaries of Maycomb County. But it was a time of vague optimism for some of the people: Maycomb County had recently been told that it had nothing to fear but fear itself (Lee 5).”</p> <p><b>Quote 2:</b>            “Jem and I found our father satisfactory: he played with us, read to us, and treated us with courteous detachment” (Lee 10).</p>	<p><b>Response 1:</b>            Gives me an idea of what the town and the people are especially the way they think.I know from history that Roosevelt gave the “fear” speech, so it must be set in the 1930s. It makes me wonder if the setting will be important in the novel.</p> <p><b>Response 2:</b>            I think “courteous detachment” is a strange way to describe a parent child relationship. I wonder why Scout and Jem call their father by his first name. Is this a reflection of their relationship?</p>

**Additional tips for completing your journal:**

- Please record your quotations/ responses in the order they appear in the novel.
- You may use *ellipses* if you do not want to use the entire quote. (Look it up if you don’t know what it means!)
- If you do not want to interrupt your reading flow, place small *post* notes in your text and come back and type them later
- A strong journal will have a variety of quotations and responses

### RUBRIC FOR DIALECTICAL JOURNAL

	5	4	3	2	1
<b>Content</b>	<p><b>Critical Reader:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Your quotes are relevant, important, thought provoking, and representative of the themes of the novel.</li> <li>Entries exhibit insight and thoughtful analysis. You can “read between the lines” of the text (inference.)</li> <li>You consider meaning of the text in a universal sense.</li> <li>You create new meaning through connections with your own experiences or other texts.</li> <li>You carry on a dialogue with the writer. You question, agree, disagree, appreciate, and object, and support your views.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Connected Reader:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Your quotes are relevant and connect to the themes of the novel.</li> <li>Entries exhibit insight and thoughtful analysis.</li> <li>You construct a thoughtful interpretation of the text.</li> <li>You show some ability to make meaning of what you read.</li> <li>You create some new meaning through connections with your own experiences and the text.</li> <li>You explain the general significance.</li> <li>You raise interesting questions.</li> <li>You explain why you agree or disagree with the text.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Emerging Reader:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>You selected quotes that may be interesting to you, but that don’t necessarily connect to the themes of the novel.</li> <li>Entries exhibit insight and thoughtful analysis a few times.</li> <li>You make connections, but explain with little detail.</li> <li>You rarely make new meaning from the reading.</li> <li>You ask simple questions of the text.</li> <li>You may agree or disagree, but don’t support your views.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Literal Reader:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Entries exhibit limited insight or none at all.</li> <li>You accept the text literally.</li> <li>You are reluctant to create meaning from the text.</li> <li>You make few connections which lack detail.</li> <li>You are sometimes confused by unclear or difficult sections of the text.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Limited Reader:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>You find the text confusing, but make no attempt to figure it out.</li> <li>You create little or no meaning from the text.</li> <li>You make an occasional connection to the text, and the ideas lack development.</li> <li>You mostly summarize the text.</li> </ul>
<b>Effort</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Work is submitted on time</li> <li>Shows a great amount of effort.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Product submitted on time</li> <li>Shows a good amount of effort.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Product submitted on time</li> <li>Shows minimal amount of time spent; evidence of carelessness, not as thorough.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Product submitted on time</li> <li>Shows lack of effort. Work is not careful or thorough.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Product is not submitted on time.</li> </ul>
<b>Format</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Complete: at least the minimal required entries are done</li> <li>Entries are labeled and formatted in a neat, comprehensible way that is clear and organized.</li> <li>Entries are cited.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Complete: at least the minimal required entries are done</li> <li>Entries formatted a way that is messy, disorganized, unclear, or otherwise difficult to comprehend. Entries are not cited.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Incomplete: fewer than required entries completed</li> <li>Entries are labeled and formatted in a neat, comprehensible way that is clear and organized.</li> <li>Entries are cited.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Incomplete: less than half of required entries done</li> <li>Entries formatted in a neat, comprehensible way that is clear and organized. Entries are cited.</li> </ul> <p style="text-align: center;">OR</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Fewer than required entries completed but messy, disorganized, unclear, or otherwise difficult to comprehend.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Incomplete: less than half of required entries done</li> <li>Entries are messy, disorganized, unclear, or otherwise difficult to comprehend.</li> </ul>
<b>Mechanics</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Sentences are grammatically correct with correct spelling and punctuation.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Few minor errors noted, but do not interfere with meaning.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Frequent errors are present that may or may not interfere with meaning.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Significant errors or very frequent errors noted.</li> <li>Problems with mechanics begin to interfere with meaning.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Little or no attention given to mechanics; out of control.</li> <li>Problems with mechanics interfere with meaning.</li> </ul>

**\*\*IMPORTANT NOTE:** The responses should be yours and not copied from any online source. Plagiarism is unacceptable and will be taken seriously. If you copy your responses you will receive a ZERO on this assignment and appropriate disciplinary action will be taken.