

# CYPRESS CHRISTIAN SCHOOL

## Summer Reading Assignment 2019-2020

ELA 10 - *Fahrenheit 451* by Ray Bradbury

OR

ELA 10 Honors - *A Tale of Two Cities* by Charles Dickens

Mrs. Lambert

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**Before the first day of school, please also have in your possession a library card from the Harris County Public Library with a PIN number for online access.**

## Annotation and Dialectical Journal Instructions for ELA 10/ELA 10 Honors

As part of your summer reading assignment, you will annotate your text as you read and complete a dialectical journal. Below are definitions and examples of annotations and dialectical journals. These will be due on the first day of class.

### Annotations

Annotating keeps the reader engaged with the text. While you are reading, use one or more of these strategies to mark the book and include your thoughts and questions.

1. Write comments in the margin, especially to ask questions or relate to characters. Make connections to your own life, etc.
2. Star any passages that are very important: events, decisions, or cause/effect relationships.
3. Underline any sentences that make you think or personally appeal to you.
4. Circle/highlight words that are unfamiliar.
5. Bracket areas that cause confusion or misunderstanding for you OR passages that seem significant to the overall plot and/or author's purpose.

### Dialectical Journals

A dialectical journal shows your conversation with the text. It is used to question, make connections, and explore ideas you have as you read. Commentary should be at least 4-6 sentences of analysis. In your commentary, be sure to explore author's purpose as well as your own personal speculations about the text and its objective. You may not simply summarize; you must offer deeper insight on **how** and **why** the individual passage connects/contributes to the whole. Furthermore, successful commentary does not "echo" words from the quoted material. Let me warn you NOT to consult online websites (such as SparkNotes) or cut/paste any of their words. This is considered plagiarism and will be viewed as cheating per the student handbook, resulting in a zero for this assignment.

Use the following categories for your journal. **Please complete at least one journal per category.**

- ✓ Symbolism
- ✓ Character Development
- ✓ Motif – recurring idea throughout a piece of literature (innocence, savagery, sacrifice, weather)
- ✓ Theme – a complete statement about life that is developed throughout the novel
- ✓ Literary elements and effects (imagery, simile/metaphor, syntax, diction, tone, foreshadowing, etc.)

FOR EXAMPLE:

This passage explains....

This particular word choice reveals....

It is interesting that the author chooses....

Here, the theme of...is introduced by...and shows...

This description illuminates the idea that...

At first this character appeared..., but here he/she appears....

This idea reappears as a motif and shows...

## **ORGANIZATION:**

Each entry should represent three sections: category, text evidence with correct MLA parenthetical documentation, and insightful commentary.

Below is a sample log entry taken from a passage in Edgar Allan Poe's short story "The Masque of the Red Death."

Please organize your entries in the following manner:

### **SAMPLE**

**Category:** Symbolism – the striking clock

**Evidence:** "Its pendulum swung to and fro with a dull, heavy, monotonous clang...and, while the chimes of the clock yet rang, it was observed that the giddiest grew pale..." (Poe 374).

**Commentary:** While Prince Prospero and his guests believe they are safe in the confines of the castle, the subtle reminder of their eventual demise is seen through the use of the chiming clock. As each hour passes, the clock loudly and oppressively sounds, resonating throughout the entire castle and serving as a reminder of time passing and eventual death. The dancers pause and gasp, realizing that they have survived one more hour, grateful yet fearful. Not only does the clock symbolize the passing of time and the temporary escape from death, it also serves as a reminder that their eventual death is coming closer. No one can escape. The clock is simply one of the many ways Poe reminds his reader that no one escapes the inevitable, and trying to do so proves perilous.

**Annotations and Dialectical Journals will be due on the first day of class – August 14, 2019.**

## **English 10 assignments:**

- ELA 10 – *Fahrenheit 451* by Ray Bradbury  
Twelve annotations (minimum) / five journals
  
- ELA 10 Honors – *A Tale of Two Cities* by Charles Dickens  
Eighteen annotations (minimum) / ten journals