

Reading Response Literature Log: *The Great Gatsby*

As you read, write your personal response in your reading log. State your feelings, thoughts, reactions, and questions about situations, ideas, actions, characters, settings, symbols, plots, themes, and any other elements in the story. You can't be wrong in your responses, so take risks and be honest. Write about what you like and dislike, what seems confusing or unusual to you. Tell what you think something means. Make predictions about what might happen later. Relate your personal experiences which connect with the plot, characters, or setting. Don't just summarize the plot. Let me hear your voice. These starters are simply suggestions for you to use. Remember your response journal is a place to record your reactions and questions, not a place to simply summarize what you've read. Sometimes a summary will be necessary to get your point across. After you read the selection, ask yourself these questions. Decide which would make the best entry from your response journal. You may certainly use other ideas of your own. Just make sure you include more than just a summary of what is happening. Support your summaries with what you are feeling as you read your book. Doing this will help you get the MOST from your book. You need to complete a reading log for each chapter of the novel.

This is the reading log:

I wonder what this means

I really don't understand this part

I really like/dislike this idea because

This character reminds me of somebody I know because

This character reminds me of me because

This character is like (name of the character) in (title of book) because

I think this setting is important because

This scene reminds me of a similar scene in (title of book) because

I like/dislike this writing because

This part is very realistic/unrealistic because

I think the relationship between _____ and _____ is interesting because

I like/dislike (name of character) because

This situation reminds me of a similar situation in my own life. It happened when

The character I most admire is _____ because

If I were (name of character) at this point, I would

What you liked or disliked and why

What you wish had happened

What you wish the author had included

Your opinion of the characters

Your opinion of the illustrations, table and figures

What you felt as you read

What you noticed when you read

Questions you have after reading

Sample Sentence Starters

I began to think

I love the way

I can't believe

I wonder why

I noticed

I think

I observed

I wonder

If I were

I'm not sure

I felt sad when

I like the way the author

I wish that

This made me think of

I was surprised

It seems like

I'm not sure

This story teaches

I began to think of