**Name:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Date:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Period:\_\_\_\_\_\_**

***To Kill a Mockingbird*: A Dialectical Journal**

**MCAN04112_0000[1]Directions:** Read through all of the following frequently asked questions before beginning the journal and reading. You will be keeping a dialectical journal throughout the entire novel and it is your responsibility to keep it updated frequently.

**What is a dialectical journal?**

Simply put, “dialectical” means the art or practice of arriving at the truth by the exchange of logical arguments. **A dialectical journal, then, is used to arrive at the “truth” of a written work through the written response to quotations from that work.** You should choose your quotations wisely by thoughtfully considering how they help you enrich or better understand the story. One way to help is to think of what it says (quote), what you say (put it into your own words), and so what (analyze how it is helpful to you).

**3**

**How many quotations should I have?**

At a minimum, **three per chapter.** Make sure you write the date and page # for each quote.

**[](http://www.google.com/imgres?um=1&hl=en&sa=N&tbo=d&biw=1008&bih=571&tbm=isch&tbnid=U0aNcnH18wBdwM:&imgrefurl=http://marccortez.com/2012/03/15/ditch-your-safety-bucket-and-speak-for-yourself/quotation-marks/&docid=ZyRtp-4sDvrrVM&imgurl=http://marccortez.com/wp-content/uploads/2012/03/quotation-marks.jpg&w=799&h=600&ei=1cS8ULfDHOLG0QHFjYHIAw&zoom=1&iact=hc&vpx=215&vpy=114&dur=468&hovh=194&hovw=259&tx=132&ty=108&sig=116147722856304831337&page=2&tbnh=122&tbnw=159&start=10&ndsp=26&ved=1t:429,r:2,s:10,i:160)**

**What exactly constitutes a quotation?**

A quotation can be narration OR dialogue. You are NOT limited just to what the characters say.

**What kinds of quotations should I choose and what should I write about?**

Find passages that you think help us better understand the author’s subject matter, characterizations, attitude, and especially THEMES (messages/”big ideas”). If you find yourself simply repeating what the quotation says, you might want to select a different quotation or reevaluate how you are approaching the response. **NO SUMMARIES!**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Quote | Response |
|  |  |

**What format should I use?**

Make a T-Chart. Use the left side of the double column notes to copy a significant quote or line from the story with its page number. Use the second column to react to that line, interpret it, ask a question about it, or complete any of the other activities described during class to help you make meaning.

You may handwrite as long as it is LEGIBLE, but if you prefer to type, just ensure that it is printed and ready on the date the journals are due.

**How long should my responses be?**

While I am more concerned with the depth of your thought, you need to stretch yourself and write a few sentences about each (at least four and possibly more).

**Are you going to collect these every day?**

No, I will collect them at different points throughout the unit. Be prepared to relinquish these journals for a day or two so I can respond to them. I will most likely spot check different responses and give you comments. Each journal is worth one summative grade!

**DUE DATES:**

* **December 21 (Chapters 1-8)**
* **January 23 (Chapters 11-18)**
* **February 8 (Chapters 19-31)**