

Lesson #9: Reading Log - Reader Responses

~ *created by Cheryl Johnston, Monroe County Community College*

While reading, students will maintain a reading log to record personal reactions to the reading. After reading for at least 25-30 minutes, write about any of the reader-response ideas listed. A "Reader-response" is NOT a summary but a response to the story. A good rule of thumb is to write a short personal response every 30-40 pages of reading and to write at least a half a page. Each reading log entry must be clearly labeled with Title of Book and either the chapters read or pages read for each response.

1. Describe one character's problem or choice to be made. What advice do you have for the character?
2. From what you have read so far, make predictions about what could happen next. Explain your prediction.
3. Explain your reaction to the setting of the novel or memoir. Cite a description that you feel is particularly powerful.
4. Examine the actions of a character you like or dislike. What does the behavior reveal about the character?
5. What real-life persons or events in your life are similar to characters and events in the story? How do they compare or contrast?
6. Discuss your main reactions to this book so far. Note how many pages you have read so far.
7. Create a series of diary or journal entries for one of the characters in the story. Write these entries in first person as if it were the actual person speaking. Begin with the first page you read today.
8. Write a biographical sketch of one of the characters in your book. Include as much information as you know about the character. Begin with when your character is born (if you know) and continue chronologically until you have given all the information you know.
9. Write a letter to one of the characters. Ask the character questions about anything you might like to know about him or her.
10. Write a thank-you note to the author of the book you are reading. Thank the author for writing the book and tell him or her why their book is a good contribution to a library.
11. Write a short review of the book and explain why you would or would not recommend the book to a friend.

12. Choose one of these statements to begin a reader response and continue for at least a paragraph or two.

- a. A question I have from reading this part of the book is ...
- b. I would like to know more about...
- c. What would have happened if (character) had done this... instead...
- d. If I could interview the author, I would ask...