

Summer Reading Dialectical Journals

A dialectical journal allows you, the reader, to engage in a sort of dialogue, or conversation, with the text as you read. This process is meant to help you develop a better understanding of the text as you read. You will find that it is a useful tool to help you process what you are reading, prepare yourself for group discussion, and gather textual evidence for class assignments.

Procedure:

- You will be tracing 4 themes as you read The Princess Bride:
 - Courage
 - Endurance
 - Loyalty
 - Teamwork
- Using the provided journal charts:
 - Find excerpts from the text related to the theme (Note: many have been found for you).
 - Comment on the significance of these quotes as they relate to the theme.
 - Come to a final opinion of the lesson taught by the novel about that theme.
- For this assignment, you will use chapter 2 (*The Groom*)-the end of the book.
 - Chapter 1 was used for the in-class assignment at the end of the year.
 - You will **not** use the same quotes as were used on that in-class assignment.
 - Note: page numbers may differ slightly due to differing editions of the book.

Example:

COURAGE

<p>Excerpt from the text.</p>	<p>Paraphrase of the excerpt</p>	<p>significance (what it does)</p>
Excerpt (with page number)	Commentary	
<p>"I just feed them, Countess." p 47</p>	<p>Westley's decision to stand up to the countess illustrates the simplicity of courage. The author accomplishes this by showing how this simple act of defiance makes Wesley seem to be a strong willed character. He is not intimidated by the countess and sees no need to boast or "kiss-up" to her.</p>	
Result	Overall lesson taught by the author about the theme:	
<p>In <u>The Princess Bride</u>, courage is more than just standing up to monsters or dangerous situations. The characters show courage often as they deal with what may seem as simple situations.</p>		

The last step: What is the "big picture" lesson to be learned?

How the author created the significance.

Name: _____

The Princess Bride

COURAGE

Excerpt (with page number)	Commentary
“ ‘Coward!’ The nobleman whirled. ‘Pig!’ Again the crowd parted. Inigo stood there, holding the six-fingered sword, repeating his words: ‘Coward. Pig. Killer.’ “ p121	_____ _____ illustrates _____ about/of courage. The author accomplishes this by _____ _____.

Result: Overall lesson taught by the author about the theme.

Name: _____

The Princess Bride

ENDURANCE

Excerpt (with page number)	Commentary
	<p>_____</p> <p>illustrates _____ about/of endurance.</p> <p>The author accomplishes this by _____</p> <p>_____.</p>
"He would not let them break him. He would hold together against anything and all." p 212	

Result: Overall lesson taught by the author about the theme.

Name: _____

The Princess Bride

LOYALTY

Excerpt (with page number)	Commentary
	<p>_____</p> <p>illustrates _____ about/of loyalty.</p> <p>The author accomplishes this by _____</p> <p>_____.</p>
<p><i>"I am Inigo Montoya and I do not accept defeat--you will think of something; I have complete confidence in you."</i> p303</p>	

Result: Overall lesson taught by the author about the theme.

Name: _____

The Princess Bride

TEAMWORK

Excerpt (with page number)	Commentary
“ ‘Surely such individuals were never intended to die in a Fire Swamp.’ ‘How can you be so sure?’ ‘Well, because we are together, hand in hand, in love.’ ” p195	_____ illustrates _____ about/of teamwork. The author accomplishes this by _____ _____.

Result: Overall lesson taught by the author about the theme.

Name: _____

Rubric						
	Quote	Commentary			Result	Total
Courage	2	3	2	1		
	2	3	2	1		
	2	3	2	1		
	2	3	2	1		
					5 3 1	
	Quote	Commentary			Result	
Endurance	2	3	2	1		
	2	3	2	1		
	2	3	2	1		
	2	3	2	1		
					5 3 1	
	Quote	Commentary			Result	
Loyalty	2	3	2	1		
	2	3	2	1		
	2	3	2	1		
	2	3	2	1		
					5 3 1	
	Quote	Commentary			Result	
Teamwork	2	3	2	1		
	2	3	2	1		
	2	3	2	1		
	2	3	2	1		
					5 3 1	

Name: _____

The Princess Bride

Rubric guidelines

Excerpt	2	Appropriate excerpt, with page number, related to the theme.
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Commentary	3	Elaborates on the significance of the textual evidence. Insightful link to the theme. Considers and addresses the author's technique. Follows the given template.
	2	Explains the significance of the textual evidence. Adequately links to the theme. Briefly considers the author's technique. Somewhat follows the template.
	1	Only restates the textual evidence with little attention to the theme. Author's technique only briefly addressed or not at all. Template is not reflected in the writing.

Result	5	Elaborates on the lesson of the theme as a whole with particular attention to the textual evidence gathered. Considers and addresses the author's intent and technique.
	3	Explains the lesson only as related to a part of the novel. Does not consider the impact of the textual evidence gathered. Does not fully address the author's intent or technique.
	1	Considers the lesson only in a general sense. Does not consider the impact of the novel on the lesson or the author's intent.