



**Introduction to Literary Genres Honors
Summer Reading Assignment 2018
Mrs. Ingoglia**

You are required to read the novel *A Thousand Splendid Suns* by Khaled Hosseini and the play "*Master Harold*"...and the boys by Athol Fugard before September. Your independent work on these literary texts and subsequent in-class discussions and assessments will constitute the first major grade for the marking period. The written summer reading assignment for *A Thousand Splendid Suns*, which is a dialectical journal, will be due on the first day of class. For "*Master Harold*"...and the boys, you will be required to annotate the text so that you will be prepared to discuss in class theme, character development, and the use of symbolism in the play.

Read with a pen or pencil and annotate the text to indicate your observations, questions, and reactions as follows:

- Underline words, phrases and sentences that you feel are significant and help you to answer the questions above. Indicate in the margin what is revealed.
- Put a star or other marker next to passages that you feel convey important ideas about the characters' experiences.
- Identify and define any unfamiliar vocabulary words.
- Note any questions that you have as you read.
- Create a list or index for yourself of important passages that you marked and what they reveal. For example, in the back of the book, you might identify moments in the novel where there are character changes and list the page numbers or list all the pages on which you found references to prominent themes or symbols.

The **Dialectical Journal** for *A Thousand Splendid Suns* must be typed in a two-column table and include at least **twelve entries** which span the entire text. Follow MLA format - double-spaced, Times New Roman, 12 point black font. You should have at least 2-3 typed pages for this assignment.

Procedure:

- As you read, choose passages that stand out to you, and record them word-for-word in the left-hand column of a T-chart. Always record the page number(s) after the quote.
- In the right hand column, write your response to the text (insights, questions, reflections, and comments to the passage)
- Label your responses using the following codes:
 - (Q) Question - ask about something that is unclear to you
 - (C) Connect - make a connection to your life, the world, or another text

- (P) Predict - anticipate what will occur based on information in the passage
- (CL) Clarify - answer an earlier question of confirm/disaffirm a prediction
- (R) Reflect - think about what the message signifies in terms of human nature, social justice, and the world, in general. Are there any racial, cultural, gender, or socioeconomic factors at play in the literary work?
- (E) Evaluate - make a judgment about the characters, their actions and choices, or the author's message

Responding to the Text:

Look for quotes that seem significant, powerful, thought provoking or puzzling. You can respond to the text in a variety of ways as long as your observations are **specific and detailed**.

You must use each of the codes listed above at least **twice**. Responses may include

- 1) an analysis based on the use of literary device (allusion, foreshadowing, metaphors, hyperbole etc.) or persuasive techniques (connotation, irony, satire etc.)
- 2) an analysis of a passage and its relationship to the story as a whole
- 3) a connection established between different characters or events in the text
- 4) a connection made to another text, film, or song
- 5) a recognition of a pattern: recurring images, ideas, colors, motifs
- 6) a recognition of a narrative shift or turn in the plot
- 7) a clarification of confusing vocabulary, terms, references

Sample Dialectical Journal entry: THE THINGS THEY CARRIED by Tim O'Brien

Passages from the text	Pg#s	Comments & Questions
<p>“-they carried like freight trains; they carried it on their backs and shoulders-and for all the ambiguities of Vietnam, all the mysteries and unknowns, there was at least the single abiding certainty that they would never be at a loss for things to carry”.</p>	Pg 2	<p>(R) O'brien chooses to end the first section of the novel with this sentence. He provides excellent visual details of what each soldier in Vietnam would carry for day-to-day fighting. He makes you feel the physical weight of what soldiers have to carry for simple survival. When you combine the emotional weight of loved ones at home, the fear of death, and the responsibility for the men you fight with, with this physical weight, you start to understand what soldiers in Vietnam dealt with every day. This quote sums up the confusion that the men felt about the reasons they were fighting the war, and how they clung to the only certainty - things they had to carry - in a confusing world where normal rules were suspended.</p>

Academic Integrity: Plagiarism from another source (i.e. Spark Notes) or another student's ideas will not be tolerated. Please do not be afraid to take risks and explore your own ideas and impressions.

Have fun reading and have a great summer!