

Novel: _____

Chapters/Pages: _____

Due Dates: **First Day of School**

Summer Reading Dialectical Journal Assignment

Directions: Keep a dialectical journal for all three summer novels. You should respond to approximately 30-35 passages from each novel throughout your reading. Your journal may be handwritten or typed.

The dialectical journal is a form of double-entry note taking that will help you gather quotes to use for your writing about literature. In the two columns, write notes that dialogue with one another, thereby developing critical reading and reflective questioning. This journal provides you with an opportunity to connect to and reflect upon the text, making your reading more engaging and meaningful. It also will help you at the end of the school year on your written exams.

1. Divide your paper into two columns.
2. Use the left hand column for literal details: direct quotations from the story (labeled with chapter and page). If you have quoted dialogue, make sure that you label who is speaking and to whom. If the narrator is speaking, you may want to make a literal note of what is going on in the text at that time. Make sure that you are selecting portions of the text that seem to have significant relevance and thematic implications for the text as a whole.
3. Use the right hand column for inferential thought, *intertextual* connections (to literature, history, pop culture, life *outside* the text) and *intratextual* connections (to events, characters, symbols, themes *within* the text).

Consider:

- What does this quote reveal about the character? The setting? The culture?
- How does this quote relate to other ideas in the novel?
- What perceptions of the author or the time period might be revealed?
- Does this quote represent foreshadowing? Can you decipher an allusion or metaphor or symbol?
- How does it represent a theme of the novel?
- What are your reactions to the events or subject matter? What predictions can you make?
- How is the text structured and how is information organized?
- What questions are you forming while reading the text?
- The right hand column is also for critical thought.
- What does this quote reveal about humanity? About society?