Welcome to Mount St. Mary High School. We in the English department look forward to seeing you in the Fall. The Summer Reading assignment is over the novel ***To Kill a Mockingbird*** by Harper Lee. The ISBN to purchase the book is **ISBN-978-0446310789**. Please email us if you have any questions about the following assignment. English I - Mrs. Rebecca Lane [rlane@mountstmary.org](mailto:rlane@mountstmary.org) and PreAP English I Mr. Matt Sheber Howard [msheberhoward@mountstmary.org](mailto:msheberhoward@mountstmary.org)

Dialectical Reading Journals are used to discuss the author’s style. What makes the writing work? What is it about the writing that stands out and makes the work distinctive? The journal should reflect at least **two quotes per chapter of the book**. Select quotations that stand out to you because of what is being said or because of the way the author writes. Pay particular attention to the ways in which the author comments on his/her overall theme.

· **Directions**: Set up your journal in the following way:

1. Create a google doc.
2. Go to Insert.
3. Go to Table.
4. Create a table with two columns and your chosen amount of rows.(2x4)
5. As you need additional rows, right click in the box and you will see “Insert row below.”

The first column will be labeled **Concrete Detail** (quotes). These will contain phrases, lines, passages that stick out in your mind, remind you of something else, make you wonder or question, seem particularly beautiful or distressing, or seem significant in any way. Label each entry with a number for the chapter and then the entry number, 1-1, 1-2, 1-3, 2-1, 2-2, 2-3 etc. Also, you must include the page number of the quote at the end of the quote. Remember a quote is any text taken word for word from the book. It does not have to be something a character said.

The second column will be labeled **Commentary** (your response). This column must have *at least 3 complete sentence* *responses* of your own interpretation for the quote you choose. Your commentary will explain the **significance of the quote to the story**. For example, after you choose quotes that have a specific purpose, then ask yourself, “Why is this quote important to this scene or to the final outcome of the story?” How does this quote reveal the protagonist’s character (*characterization*)? How might this event foreshadow a future event (*plot)*? Why does the author use this example of metaphor (*style*)? What is the effect he/she creates or the greater purpose? Furthermore, can you connect the quote to your own personal experience or something else you have read? What is your insight, judgment, or emotional reaction?

Label your responses using the following codes; there is no requirement for how many of each type of response you need:  
(Q) Question – ask about something in the passage that is unclear  
(C) Connect – make a connection to your life, the world, or another text  
(P) Predict – anticipate what will occur based on what’s in the passage  
(CL) Clarify – answer earlier questions or confirm/disaffirm a prediction  
(R) Reflect – think deeply about what the passage means in a broad sense—not just to the characters in the story. What conclusions can you draw about the world, about human nature, or just the way things work?  
(E) Evaluate – make a judgment about the character(s), their actions, or what the author is trying to say

The following is an example of what it should look like.

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| **CONCRETE DETAIL** | **COMMENTARY** |
| 12-1  “This change in Jem had come about in a matter of weeks. Mrs. Dubose was not cold in her  grave—Jem had seemed grateful enough for my company when he went to read to her. Overnight, it seemed, Jem had acquired an alien set of values and was trying to impose them on me: several times he went so far as to tell me what to do. After one altercation when Jem hollered, ‘It’s time you started bein’ a girl and acting right!’ I burst into tears and fled to Calpurnia”(Lee 115).          12-2 | 12-1 (E) This passage is important to the characterization of both Jem and Scout. In the beginning of the novel, Jem and Scout are like partners in crime. They play games together with Dill and seem to have strong brother-sister relationship. At this point, Jem is twelve and is about to be a teenager. He is changing and growing up. In this quote, Scout explains her frustration and confusion that her brother is different. While Jem is suddenly concerned about her role as a girl and wants her to “act right,” Scout is still very much a tom-boy and does not understand his new “alien” values. This quote signifies that one sibling is growing up while the other struggles to understand it.    12-2 |