

Example

Bless Me, Ultima Reading Log

Quotations from the Text	Commentary/Responses to the Text
<p>1. “She took my hand and I felt the power of whirlwind sweep around me. Her eyes swept the surrounding hills and through them I saw for the first time the wild beauty of our hills and the magic of the green river. My nostrils quivered as I felt the song of the mockingbirds and the drone of the grasshoppers mingle with the pulse of the earth.” (12)</p>	<p>1. The imagery reveals Tony’s sense of the earth around him. As Ultima touches his hand, he is drawn into what seems to be a new and wondrous universe. This powerful experience makes Tony think that Ultima knows his fate and that they will be close. It can be inferred that their relationship will be a significant part of the novel.</p>
<p>2.</p>	<p>2.</p>

To Kill a Mockingbird Reading Log

Quotations from the Text	Commentary/Responses to the Text
<p>1. “ ‘He might have hurt me a little,’ Atticus conceded, ‘but son, you’ll understand folks a little better when you’re older. A mob’s always made up of people, no matter what. Mr. Cunningham was part of a mob last night, but he was still a man...So, it took an eight-year-old child to bring ‘em to their senses didn’t it?’” (159-160)</p>	<p>1. The tone here is matter-of-fact. Atticus admits that Mr. Cunningham could have harmed him, but he explains that Mr. Cunningham’s actions were not entirely his own; he was influenced by the crowd as is common for many people. It takes Scout recognizing him and talking to him to make Mr. Cunningham realize that what he is doing is wrong.</p>

Remember, Reading Logs Should:

- Be thoughtful, insightful, and original
- Show understanding of the characters, setting, themes, and the WORK AS A WHOLE
- Be thorough and complete
 - Quotations should feature proper punctuation and the page reference in parentheses as above

Generic Reading Log Scoring Guide

Successful-Synthesis and evaluation of the text

- ❖ Features detailed, meaningful passages and quote selections
- ❖ Coverage of text is complete and thorough
- ❖ Journal is neat, organized, and professional looking; student has followed directions for organization of the journal
- ❖ Uses thoughtful interpretation and commentary; avoids clichés
- ❖ Makes insightful personal connections
- ❖ Asks thought-provoking and insightful questions
- ❖ A strong interest in the material as evidenced through an awareness of levels of meaning
- ❖ Judgments are textually and experientially based
- ❖ Predications are thoughtful and keenly observed
- ❖ Character analysis is consistent with the material presented
- ❖ Show an understanding of character motivation
- ❖ Comparisons and connections are found between text and other literary and artistic works
- ❖ Recognizes the author's writing choices and reasons for those choices
- ❖ Recognizes the energy and deliberateness of the writing process
- ❖ Awareness that their own personal beliefs may differ from those expressed in the text
- ❖ Demonstrates an awareness of point of view

Requires Revision-Some evidence, understanding and appreciation of the text

- ❖ Uses less-detailed, but good quote selections
- ❖ Adequately addresses all parts of the reading assignment
- ❖ Journal is neat and readable
- ❖ Follows directions for organizing the journal
- ❖ Uses some intelligent commentary
- ❖ Addresses some thematic connections
- ❖ Includes some personal connections
- ❖ Does not summarize, but rather reflects upon the narrative
- ❖ Predictions are plausible
- ❖ Demonstrates some understanding of character motivation
- ❖ Show student's engagement in the text

Unsuccessful-Literal surface encounter with the text

- ❖ Only a few good details from text; quotes may be incomplete or not used at all
- ❖ Most commentary is vague, unsupported, or plot summary
- ❖ Journal is relatively neat, but may be difficult to read
- ❖ Student has not followed all directions for organizing the journal (no columns, no page numbers, etc.)
- ❖ Shows limited personal connection to text
- ❖ Asks few or obvious questions
- ❖ Address only part of the reading assignment
- ❖ Predictions are unrealistic or improbable
- ❖ Uses stereotypical responses
- ❖ Entries are too short
- ❖ Features off-topic responses
- ❖ Exhibits confusion about the text and lack of critical interest in literature