### **Dialectic Journal (Double-Entry or Cornell Notes)**

### **Instructions & Template**

The dialectic journal combines note taking with comments or questions. Its purpose is to encourage careful reading and response and to help you keep track of important points in the text as you read. Please use the following to set up your journal.

1. Download the template under “Quarter 2 Downloads” that says “Dialectical Journal Template”
2. On the left, label the column “Quotes from the Text and Page Number”
3. On the right, label the column “My Reactions.”
4. As you read, quote important points in the text in the left column. Put the page of the quote in the margin. (You do not need to put the entire quote in your notebook. You will need enough to jog your memory and make it clear to the teacher what section of the novel to which you are referring.)
5. As you copy the quotation, note in the right column your reaction-does a character seem mean, wicked, pitiful? –has the story taken an unexpected turn? --have you found an important part of the author’s message? --is the author making an allusion (reference) to something important? --has the character revealed an important part of himself? REMEMBER TO ANALYZE THE PASSAGE, NOT MERELY PROVIDE SUMMARY.
6. Your notes from your notebook will be typed AND submitted to [www.turnitin.com](http://www.turnitin.com) also.

Example from *Animal Farm:*

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| --- | --- | --- |
| DJE Number | **Quotation from the Text and Page** Number | **My reactions** |
| **1** | “The pigs did not actually work, but directed and supervised others. With their superior knowledge it was natural that they should assume the leadership…” (46) | *It appears the pigs are starting to take advantage of the other animals (like Mr. Jones?) How can the others not recognize the pigs’ attitude? They said that everyone should work, but they aren’t working. So everyone is NOT equal after all. Is it possible that “dumb animals govern themselves.”* |
| **2** | “He [Napoleon] had seemed to oppose the windmill, simply as a maneuver to get rid of Snowball, who was a dangerous character… The animals were not certain what the word meant, but…the three dogs who happened to be with him growled so threateningly, that they accepted his explanation.” (82) | *Sounds like Napoleon revises the truth, a dangerous but effective political practice. Are the dogs beginning to be a force of power? Like the secret police? When is it OK to use force against your own people in a democracy? On the other hand, is it possible that some people need to be controlled because they hurt society?* |

State your thoughts, feelings, reactions and questions about situations, characters, ideas, actions, settings, or details. Don’t be afraid to express your opinion. As long as your responses are honest reactions to the text, they cannot be wrong. Beware of simple paraphrasing or summarizing the text. **Remember you want to show your thinking about the author’s work, not merely restate it.**

**Minimum number of entries:** 1 entry per chapter based on reading from ***Great Expectations.*** 15 total.