

Dialectical Journals

Question Options:

1. What does the quote mean or suggest to you?
2. Why do you think it is important, to you personally and/or to the whole story?
3. What confuses you about the quote? What might you do to begin to clear up your confusion?
4. Why is understanding this quote important to your response to the whole work?
5. How does this quote connect to other ideas in the story?
6. How do you think the author feels about the ideas, events, or characters she or he is presenting?
7. If it suggests a problem, what solution(s) might exist?
8. What might have caused the problem?
9. Do the characters remind you of anyone else, in fiction, history, or your own life?
10. What is revealed about the character(s) through this quote?
11. What are the implications of this idea, in the story and/or beyond it?
12. Is the idea suggested correct and reasonable? Do you agree or disagree with it? Why?
13. How does this quote relate to other works you have read?
14. How does this quote relate to your personal experiences?
15. What works of art, music, dance or film does it remind you of? How? How does making this connection help you get more out of the question?

Sentence Starters:

- I wonder...
- I began to think of...
- I suppose that...
- I don't see how...
- I like the idea...
- I noticed that...
- I was surprised that...