

12 AP Summer Reading Assignment

Things Fall Apart

Double Entry Journal

So many best literacy teaching practices are all about getting students' fingerprints all over the text. We want readers to do more than glide over the text, decoding with ease, but making only limited amounts of meaning. We want them to handle the text, take it apart, manipulate it, look for its heart and find out what makes it tick, chunk it into meaningful bits and then interrogate each bit.

- Double entry journals are ways to help you read with an investigating eye. It helps you, the reader, to slow down and pay attention when you read. Double entry journals teach you to explore a text by using the critical art of close reading. Using the sample below, complete a double entry journal for *Things Fall Apart*. You should aim for an entry for every three to four pages of reading. They are due the first day of class. Also, the assignment must be available as a Word or text document; this will be submitted to Turnitin.com during the first week of class to check for plagiarism.

Different Ways to Keep a Double Entry Journal

Left Hand Side	Right Hand Side
Quotes from the text	Visual commentary (drawings, visual analogies, doodles)
Quotes from the text	Written reactions, reflections, commentary, musings ("Hmmm...")
Quotes from the text	Connections <ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ Text to text➤ Text to Self➤ Text to world
Observations, details revealed by close reading	Significance
What the text says...	Why the text says this...
Questions: "I wonder why..."	Possible answers: "Maybe because..."
Quotes from texts	Questions (Clarifying & Probing)
Quotes from texts	Social Questions (Race, class, gender inequalities)
Quotes from texts	Memories

Quotes from texts	Naming Literary or Persuasive (Rhetorical) Techniques
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12 AP Summer Reading Assignment
The Poisonwood Bible

Directions: After a close reading of the novel, write a comparison/contrast paper that reflects your thoughts on one of the following topics:

the journeys of two of the protagonists
the author's use of foil characters
the impact of first person points of view
the use of symbolic settings
parent/child conflicts
religion/society/village conflicts

Try to connect the topic to a key theme of the novel, such as discrimination, loss, secrecy, or redemption. Be sure to use specific quotations/examples from the novel as support.

- **Requirements:** This assignment is due the first day of class and is worth the equivalent of a test grade. Follow the guidelines for writing a formal literary analysis and include textual support, properly documented. The essay should be a minimum of at 3-5 pages and must be typed in MLA format. As with the reading journal for *Things Fall Apart*, the assignment must be available as a Word or text document; this will be submitted to Turnitin.com during the first week of class to check for plagiarism.

Also, be prepared to take a test on each novel **on the first day of class.**