

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Period: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## **Dialectical Journal- Interpreting Text**

**DIRECTIONS:** In the first column, record a quote, phrase, or word from the text that stands out (maybe a word you don't know, a thought-provoking line, etc.). Include the page/paragraph number. In the second column record your interpretation and analysis of the information by writing an explanation or creating text-dependent questions related to the information. Use complete sentences. Show evidence of critical thinking.

Title of Text: \_\_\_\_\_

Author of Text: \_\_\_\_\_

<b>Information</b> (Quote, phrase and/or word with pg. #)	<b>Interpretation</b> (Your reactions/opinions/explanation/question related to the text)

Dialectical Journal- Annotating  
Plant- Language Arts

<b>Information</b> (Quote, phrase and/or word with pg. #)	<b>Interpretation</b> (Your reactions/opinions/explanation/question related to the text)

## HOW TO ANNOTATE

1. Find an important moment, a sentence that makes you think “HmMMM” or “Ah-ha!”
2. Use a reading strategy:
  - Ask a specific QUESTION
  - Make an INFERENCE
  - Make a CONNECTION
  - Draw a CONCLUSION by SYNTHESIZING or DETERMINING IMPORTANCE
3. Mark the text
  - As you read **highlight** key information.
  - As you read take **marginal notes**. These notes can include stars, check marks, phrases, questions, question marks, words, etc.
  - Keep a list of key information with page numbers.
  - List vocabulary words.
  - Write a brief summary at the end of each chapter or section.
  - Write an alternative title for each chapter or section.

## BEFORE READING

- Examine the front and back covers (books)
- Read the title and any subtitles
- Examine the illustrations
- Examine the print (bold, italics, etc.)
- Examine the way the text is set up (book, short story, diary, dialogue, article, etc.)

As you examine and read these, write questions, and make predictions and/or connections near these parts of the text.

## DURING READING

Mark in the text:

- Characters (who)
- Setting (when & where)
- Circle Vocabulary
- Underline Important information

Write in the margins:

- Summarize
- Make predictions
- Make connections
- Ask questions
- Determine importance (author’s purpose)
- Write opinions, reactions, comments (synthesize)
- Look for patterns/repetitions

## AFTER READING

- Reread annotations—draw conclusions (speculate)
- Reread introduction and conclusion—try to figure out something new (synthesize)
- Examine patterns/repetitions—determine possible meanings (determine importance)
- Determine what the title might mean