

Reading Journals

Utilizing an informal essay format, generate your opinions and observations on various course materials throughout the term.

OBJECTIVES

1. Show your comprehension of the reading materials for five items from syllabus.
2. Strengthen reading concepts and presentation of your observations before class.
3. Use full sentence format: roughly 200 words < *at least one full page*.
4. Isolate your impressions of the material read.
5. **Answer the following questions:**
 - What is the author's intentions and themes?
 - Is the piece mainly informative, persuasive, or entertainment? What purpose?
 - Does the audience agree or disagree with the author?
 - State why or why you do not like the essay: be very specific — *cite examples*.
 - What are the essay's weak points or major strengths?
6. Other items to include:
 - casual observations regarding the material
 - describe details which helped you relate (or not relate) to author
 - be as expressive & creative with your presentation: doodle, use emoticons, bold or italic text, add illustrations or photos; create an online blog
7. Choose from the following list of authors and creative works:
 - 06.09: Virginia Woolf, "My Father: Leslie Stephen" p 137
 - 06.14: E. B. White, "Once More to the Lake" p 93
 - 06.15: N. Scott Momaday, "The Way to Rainy Mountain" p 182
 - 06.21: Isabel Allende, "The Amazon Queen" *handout*
 - 06.17: Brent Staples, "Just Walk on By" p 396
 - 06.21: Arthur Miller, "Get it Right: Privatize Executions" *handout*
 - 06.22: Peter Elbow, "Desperation Writing" *handout*
 - 06.29: Chris Bruce, "'Everyone Welcome' —," *handout*
 - 06.29: Jose Antonio Burciaga, "Tortillas" p 524
 - 06.30: Lauren Slater, "Love" p 243
 - 07.06: E. S. Maduro, "Excuse Me While I Explode" p 255
 - 07.07: Elisabeth Kübler-Ross, "On the Fear of Death" p 276
 - 07.07: Virginia Woolf, "The Death of the Moth" *handout*
8. Exercises are due typed on date shown.