

Reading, Journal, and Essay Assignment for *A Christmas Carol* by Charles Dickens

Reading Assignment:

A Christmas Carol by Charles Dickens

1. I: Marley's Ghost—due Wednesday, September 3rd
2. II: The First of Three Spirits—due Monday, September 8th
3. III: The Second of the Three Spirits—due Thursday, September 11th
4. IV: The Last of the Spirits—due Tuesday, September 16th
5. V: The End of It—due Thursday, September 18th
6. "My Daily Dives in the Dumpster" by Lars Eighner—due Thursday, September 25th

Journal Assignment:

60 Points in Formative Assessments

For each **Reading Assignment**, students will write a **Dialectic Journal entry with two quotations**. Students may also write questions and ideas they have about that reading assignment. **The Dialectic Journal entry is due on the same day as the Reading Assignment.**

A Dialectic Journal entry includes a quotation from the story that interests the student in some way. It could be dialogue or description or any combination. After the student copies down the whole quotation and writes the page number in parenthesis, the student responds to the quotation. In the response, the student may remark on the style of the quotation, issues of plot or character, etc. Students may write about why this quotation is so compelling. Students should write about how the quotation could be used in an essay. This is also a place to ask any questions. At the end of each entry, leave space for another student's response. We will discuss this formatting in class.

Example of a Dialectic Journal Entry:

Wednesday, September 7, 2013

1. Quotation: "And he began to call up in his imagination the best moments of his pleasant life. But, strangely enough, all these best moments of his pleasant life seemed to him absolutely different from what they had seemed then,--all, except the earliest remembrances of his childhood" (Tolstoy 404).

Response: Why does he call this his "pleasant life"? He doesn't seem to enjoy his family at all. Does Ivan not even realize that he doesn't enjoy his life? He's just doing what he's supposed to be doing and that's not fulfilling enough. I think I can use this quotation in an essay because once he realizes his life is almost over, Ivan starts to think

about what is really important. I think it shows what is really important is having a meaningful childhood. Does remembering your life when you're dying really happen to people?

Another response:

Essay Assignment:

60% of Quarter Grade in Summative Assessments

When this novel is finished, students will be writing a 3-4 page essay on the following topic:

Write a 3-4 page lens and artifact essay for this unit. Use "My Daily Dives in the Dumpster" by Lars Eighner as a lens to examine Charles Dickens' A Christmas Carol.

Your essay must be turned in to Turnitin.com by.....

