

## Dialectical Journal Rubric

The dialectical journal features in the left column passages you select from the texts you read for this class (with names of texts, chapters/acts, page numbers in parentheses after each entry). It features in the right column your thoughtful responses to those textual passages (written directly to the right of each passage).

### A

- Demonstrates a comprehensive and highly insightful understanding of the significant ideas in the passages
- Analyzes with mastery the writer's use of imagery, language, universal themes, and unique aspects of the text
- Regularly supports important student ideas and viewpoints through highly accurate and detailed references to the principal text and other works
- Demonstrates a thorough understanding of the author's use of stylistic devices (including figurative language, irony, tone, mood) and an appreciation of the effects created

### B

- Demonstrates a comprehensive understanding of the significant ideas in the passages
- Analyzes the writer's use of imagery, language, universal themes, and unique aspects of the text
- Supports important student ideas and viewpoints through highly accurate and detailed references to the principal text and other works
- Demonstrates an understanding of the author's use of stylistic devices (including figurative language, irony, tone, mood) and an appreciation of the effects created

### C

- Demonstrates a competent understanding of the significant ideas in the passages
- Occasionally analyzes the writer's use of imagery, language, universal themes, and unique aspects of the text
- Supports student ideas and viewpoints through somewhat accurate and detailed references to the principal text and other works
- Demonstrates some understanding of the author's use of stylistic devices (including figurative language, irony, tone, mood) and some appreciation of the effects created

### D

- May place too heavy an emphasis on textual summary
- Demonstrates limited understanding of the significant ideas in the passages
- Rarely analyzes the writer's use of imagery, language, universal themes, and unique aspects of the text
- Weakly supports student ideas and viewpoints through casual references to the principal text
- Demonstrates limited understanding of the author's use of stylistic devices (including figurative language, irony, tone, mood) and little appreciation of the effects created

### F

- May simply summarize the text
- Demonstrates poor (or no) understanding of the significant ideas in the passages
- Does not analyze the writer's use of imagery, language, universal themes, and unique aspects of the text
- Does not support student ideas and viewpoints through textual references
- Demonstrates poor (or no) understanding of the author's use of stylistic devices