

## Reading Log Guidelines Reading 96/97

**Reading Logs are worth 50 points each.** The purpose is to create a comprehensive tool for yourself and to demonstrate your ability to synthesize, analyze and discuss the assigned books and essays on paper.

**Heading:** Reading Logs must include a heading as outlined below:

Your Name  
Due Date  
Title and Author of the Book

### **Summary: (10 points)**

Briefly describe what **happens** in the section assigned in the order in which it happens. Remember that your chore is to **condense** the information (making it shorter) which means that you present only the *main* ideas or actions. Because a summary must be all your own words (phraseology), don't **quote from the book**. Generally you will want to reduce the length of your work to less than one-half the original.

### **Paraphrase: (10 points)**

You will be assigned a short passage that you must paraphrase. Paraphrasing involves expressing meaning in words other than the original in order to clarify the original idea. A paraphrase is different from a summary because you are not trying to **condense** material into a shorter space. In fact, a paraphrase can be **longer** than the original work since your purpose is to **clarify**. Paraphrase is usually confined to material that is complex and confusing. It requires careful understanding of the original. It must involve **all your own language** so you do not quote from the original work. Also, you do not comment on the material or discuss what it might mean; rather you're just trying to **simplify** it.

### **Analysis Discussion: (15 points)**

Analysis involves looking deeply at the material assigned and finding complex **meaning** in the ideas presented. Unlike summary, it involves discussing the issues **beyond** what is actually stated in the text. This section of the Reading Log is designed to give you the opportunity to explore one of the ideas more fully. Do not simply retell the story or summarize the events in this section. Rather, here you are expected to **analyze** the deeper meaning/purpose/ramifications of the information or incident. Remember that *context* is valuable here. You may find it useful, for example, to return to a previous part of the book in order to place the incident you're deal with into the right context. Or you might find it useful to discuss how this passage affects later passages. However, these areas should not be the focus of your discussion; they would just be helpful in explaining what you determine and how you arrived at that determination. This section **must be at least three** full paragraphs (about 1 ½ pages). While you may use quotes from the book, you should not rely on them too heavily—a good goal is to limit quotes to 10% of your final length. The work needs to be your own words and your own ideas.

### **Vocabulary: (15 points)**

Select and write down at least five vocabulary words found in the book that you weren't able to define without looking in a dictionary or that you weren't certain about. Identify where you found the words (chapter and page) and type the **entire sentence** that contains the word. Then write out the dictionary definition of the word that fits the **context** used. If you can't find a definition in your dictionary, determine if the word is a slang term or a made-up word that won't be in a dictionary, and, if it is, select a different word. Or consider whether the word contains a prefix or consider using another dictionary—not all dictionaries are complete.