

DIALECTICAL JOURNAL SCORING RUBRIC

CRITICAL READER	CONNECTED READER	THOUGHTFUL READER	LITERAL READER	LIMITED READER
5	4	3	2	1
Detailed, elaborate responses.	Detailed responses.	Somewhat detailed responses.	Simple, factual responses.	Perfunctory responses.
You can “read between the lines” of the text.	You can construct a thoughtful, believable interpretation of the text.	You make connections to your own past experiences, feelings, or knowledge, but don’t explain in enough detail.	You accept the text literally without thinking of different possibilities in meaning.	You find the text confusing, but don’t attempt to figure it out.
You think about the meaning of the text in terms of a larger or universal significance, as aspect of self or life in general.	You fill in gaps in the text and show some ability to make meaning from what you read.	You rarely change your ideas about the text even after you re-read it.	You are reluctant to change your ideas about the text, even after re-reading it.	You don’t change your ideas about the text after re-reading it.
You create your own meaning through personal connections and references to other texts.	You create your own meaning through personal connections and references to other texts.	You may agree or disagree with ideas in the text, but you don’t thoroughly explain or support your opinions.	You don’t reach beyond the obvious to make connections to the text; you make few connections, which lack sufficient detail.	You make few or no connections to the text and your ideas lack development.
You consider different possible interpretations as you read	You can explain the more general significance of the text beyond the facts.	You ask simple questions about the text.	You are sometimes confused by unclear or difficult sections of the text.	
You experiment with different ideas or think up original or unpredictable responses	You raise important questions about the text.			
You carry on an ongoing dialogue with the writer; you question, agree, disagree, appreciate, or object.	You explain why you disagree or agree with something in the text, and you explain and support your reaction.			