**Literature Response Writing**

You will be responding to literature once a week. You will be writing two paragraphs each week. This writing is due the beginning of class each week on **Thursday.**

You are to write a written response to a piece of literature that you have read since your last entry. Whether you are reading a novel, a book report book, or even a literature circle book – the choice is yours.

The format that you need to follow is: Write a complete heading in the left top corner. Write the title of the literature that you are responding to as a title to the paper. Titles need to be underlined if this is hand-written or *italicized* if you word-processed your entry.

Then you skip one line and indent for your first paragraph. **Each entry is a two paragraph written response**. The first paragraph is a short summary of what you have read this week. The second paragraph is your response to the literature. This is the paragraph that shows your analysis and critical thinking.

How to respond (the second paragraph): As this is a personal response, there is not one right or wrong answer. Refer to the **Personal Response Prompts** page to give you ideas of what to write about. Remember that this is a one paragraph. So while you may think you can answer one of the prompts with a word or two, I want you to elaborate by telling me more. Back up your thinking with evidence and examples.

Each Response to Literature is worth 10 points. I grade them holistically – That means that I will be looking for a number of items that are to be present in your response.

* Paragraph form (topic sentence, supporting details, concluding sentence)
* Grammar, Punctuation, and Spelling
* Vivid and Varied Use of Language
* In-depth Understanding – Shown by the thoughtfulness of your response.
* Neatness

**Personal Response Prompts**

* ***Higher Level Comprehension Prompts:***
* What qualities of the character (honest, loyal, cruel, dishonest etc.) will affect how the character handles the problems and conflicts he or she encounters?
* I was surprised when/angry about/satisfied with/moved by…
* I noticed the character changed by…
* If you could ask any character a question, what would you ask?
* If I were the character I would/wouldn’t…
* ***Content Questions/Prompts:***
* What words, phrases, or images stand out for you and why?
* If I lived…I would probably feel…
* I admire the character because…
* One thing that I think is really wonderful about the way the characters lived…
* One thing that I think is really awful about the way the characters lived…
* If….happened to me, I would feel…
* ***Connections:***
* With which characters do you identify in the book, and why do you believe you identify with them?
* Text to Self, Text to Text, and Text to World

Be sure to always answer the question, “WHY?”

Why do you think that?

Support your reasoning.