

2009
Summer Reading Project
Daily Reading Log

Instructions:

1. In addition to completing a project, students are expected to keep a Daily Reading Log.
2. Each individual entry should include:
 - ✓ The date
 - ✓ The pages read. If you are reading one of Shakespeare's plays, record the Act, scene, and line numbers read.
 - ✓ A brief summary of the plot. Be sure to include detailed information about plot, conflict, and character development with each entry.

For example: If the plot has reached its climax, be sure to note what the climactic moment is. Explain how the characters react to the climax. How has the conflict influenced the climax?
 - ✓ Be sure to note any literary devices employed by the author. See the **Glossary of Literary Terms** posted on the school's website. Give detailed examples of how the devices are used within the work.

*For example: Be sure to comment on the work's **setting**. How does the setting influence the characters? How might the setting reflect the **conflict**? What **tone** has been established? Is the author using **irony** – **dramatic, situational, or verbal irony**?*
 - ✓ In addition to Literary Terms, include any vocabulary found in the text of the work with which you are not familiar. Define the term, and record the sentence and page number on which it appears.
3. Students may neatly record their Daily Reading Log in a spiral notebook, or they may create a Word Document.
4. Daily Reading Logs will be collected with the test on either September 17th (Freshmen and Juniors) or September 24th (Sophomores and Seniors)..
5. Remember, it is in your best interest to take thorough notes because you are allowed to use the Daily Reading Log to help you complete the essay test given upon your return to school.

Entry Example:

Othello by William Shakespeare

June 16, 2009

Act 1, scene 1, lines 1 – 183

The play opens in Venice, Italy in the 16th century. Iago, the antagonist, is speaking to Roderigo, who is very much in love with Desdemona. Roderigo has been paying Iago to gather information about Desdemona, and Iago is taking full advantage of Roderigo's desperation. Iago tells Roderigo that Desdemona has eloped with Othello, a Moor and a leader in the Venetian Military. Iago's prejudice is evident in his descriptions of Othello. Iago also shares that he is furious about Othello's choice for lieutenant – Michael Cassio. Iago feels like he has been snubbed – that he has real military experience and Cassio simply has theoretical experience. Iago tells Roderigo that he has a plan that will benefit them both – he plans to pretend to be loyal to Othello while working to ruin him. He tells Roderigo that he will be in the perfect position to woo Desdemona once Othello is removed from the picture.

In order to begin destroying Othello's credibility, Iago and Roderigo tell Brabantio, a powerful Venetian Senator, that his daughter has run away and eloped with Othello. At first, Brabantio refuses to believe Desdemona would do this. He believes Roderigo is simply causing trouble because Brabantio refused to let him court Desdemona. Once he is convinced to check his daughter's room and finds it empty, Brabantio is enraged, just as Iago expected him to be. Brabantio plans to wake family members and supporters to help him track down Othello and Desdemona.

It's important to note that Iago hides during the exchange with Brabantio; he's willing to verbally incite him, but he does not want Brabantio to know he's involved.

Blank Verse – the form used by noble and educated characters in the play; used to establish status.

Prose – used to establish Iago's true feelings.

Conflict – man vs. man (Iago vs. Othello, Iago vs. Cassio, Roderigo vs. Othello for Desdemona's love)