



THE MASTER'S SCHOOL

UConn ECE 1004: Introduction to Academic Writing *Mrs. Sperry*

Supplies needed for the fall

- Pens: blue, black, red, and other colors of interest
- Highlighters: various colors
- Sticky notes (any kind)
- A notebook—spiral or composition-style—that contains your summer assignments and that will last the whole year or up until mid-terms

Summer Assignment

Obtain a copy of *The Kite Runner* by Khaled Hosseini. As you read, annotate by underlining and marking the novel. You will be graded on your annotations—I want to see evidence that you are interacting with the text. You need to use sticky notes or pens/pencils to write directly in the book, marking notable quotes, asking questions, and making comments. You will turn in your book during the first couple of weeks of school for a letter grade. To earn an A on this assignment, you will have significant and meaningful marks and comments every three to five pages. During the first month of school, you will write an in-class essay using your annotated copy of *The Kite Runner*.

I urge you to find time to sit back and get caught up in the story: the imagery, the characters, and the conflict. What can you take away from these stories? What do they say about home and family, violence and conflict, religion and isolation, redemption and hope?

JOURNALS

As you read *The Kite Runner*, you will keep a dialectical journal. You may use either a composition notebook or spiral bound notebook. **You will use the same one over the summer that you use during the school year.** Choose one that will last and that has enough pages—at least 150 for spiral or two composition books.

These journals will consist of quotations to which you respond critically. Please label the chapter and date of entry at the top of each page. Select one quotation or passage for approximately every 15-25 pages. Respond to the quotations; focus on the ways in which the author uses language to create an effect.

- What is it about the language that stands out and makes the passage distinctive or descriptive?
- What is your reaction to the characters?
- Are there recurring images or themes that stand out?
- What events are shocking, disturbing, or surprising?
- What is your personal reaction to the work?

Responses should be developed thoughtfully and intellectually. An “A” journal will contain responses that are approximately 60 words in length and will contain multiple quotes per chapter. The dialectical journals should be constructed this way:

| Chapter | Date |
|--|---|
| Quote | Response |
| <p>“Write the quote from the on the left side of the paper with quote the correct MLA citation” (176).</p> <p>You should take a quote approximately every 15 pages. You can have more than one quote and response per page, and you can use the back of the page.</p> | <p>Your response and analysis of the book should be written on the opposite side of the (same) page. For the RESPONSE column, you have several ways to respond to a text, but you only need to use one way.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Raise questions about the beliefs and values implied in the text• Give your personal reactions to the passage• Discuss the words, ideas, or actions of the author or a character• Tell what it reminds you of from your own experiences• Write about what it makes you think or feel• Argue with or speak to the character or author <p>Responses should be approximately 60 words in length.</p> |

All summer reading assignments are due the first few weeks of school. Please come prepared with your notebook and supplies. Feel free to contact me over the summer with any questions you have.
Have a great summer!

Mrs. Sperry

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