

Reading Response Letter (RRL) Guidelines

One time during the week you will write a reading response letter to show your progress as a reader, writer, and thinker.

The purpose of your HRL is to:

1. Capture your thinking as you read,
2. Capture your thinking as you reflect on (think about) your reading,
3. Evaluate your reading goal(s) and establish next steps (SMART goals) for next week.

This letter will be written in a correct letter format and will contain:

First Paragraph:

Write a brief summary of what you read that included your opinion about the text. Include the title and author of the book. The title needs to be underlined. Remember, a summary includes only the main ideas and is not a retell of everything that happened. This summary should be written in a way that demonstrates you have an understanding of the elements of story and plot.

Your first paragraph should include:

1. Summary
2. Title and author (title underlined)
3. Opinion about the text
4. Writing that demonstrates you understand the elements of story and plot: plot, protagonist, antagonist, conflict, theme, setting - exposition, rising action, climax, falling action, denouement.

Second Paragraph:

Focus on the reading strategies you used and how they helped you as a reader. Give at least one direct example from the reading and tie it to a direct quote or part of the story. This paragraph is really important and shows your reading thinking!

Your second paragraph should include:

1. A reading strategy you used,
2. A direct example from the text where you used this strategy,
3. Clear explanation how this particular strategy helped you understand/make meaning as you read.

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Third Paragraph:

Each week you should set a goal as a reader. This paragraph is where you share this new goal and think about last week's goal. Did you meet your goal last week? If not, why not? What is your new goal? What are your next steps? Be sure to talk about how this will help you improve as a reader.

Your third paragraph should include:

1. A reflection on last week's goal. Did you meet it? Why or why not? How did it help you become a better reader?
2. Description of a new goal for this next week, with specific steps about how you are going to meet it
3. An explanation about how this new goal will help you become a better reader.

Be sure and refer to (look at) the rubric and guidelines when you are writing your letter. Make a note to remind yourself of when your HRL is due.