

English 12 Standard
Summer Reading Assignment

A Morbid Taste for Bones, by Ellis Peters

OR

The Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy, by Douglas Adams

Assignment: As you read the novel, you are to keep a reading journal in which you comment on quotes that seem significant to you, as well as identify, define, and use vocabulary words that are unfamiliar to you. You must complete both parts of the assignment to receive full credit. This assignment is **due on the first day of class** and will count as an extra credit grade for the first quarter. Late assignments will not be accepted.

Reading Journal: In the journal you will record quotations which seem significant to you, and then write comments in which you analyze the significance of the quotes. To create your journal, you can use the Word template provided or, if you don't have Word, create a similar document in the program you use. For each entry, you may comment on quotes that

- are appropriate for the genre of the book you choose. For *Hitchhiker's Guide*, choose passages that you find funny and comment on why they are humorous. For *A Morbid Taste for Bones*, which is a mystery, find passages the either create questions or provide clues.
- reveal significant traits of a character.
- help develop a theme (author's message) or motif (recurring image or symbol).
- contribute to the tone of the novel.

Or, you can:

- make a connection to something in your own experience. (This reminds me of ___because___.)
- ask a question.
- make a prediction.
- make a comparison to today's attitudes and culture.

Journal Requirements:

- Must have at least 15 entries.
- Entries must be drawn from all parts of the novel. You must have one from the last chapter commenting on the relevance of the ending.
- Quotations must include a context (say what's happening at that point in the story) as well as the page number.
- Commentary must focus on interpretation; no summary.

Examples: Below are two sample entries, one from each novel, to use as a guide.



p. #	Passage	Commentary
2	"For Brother Cadfael had come late to the monastic life, like a battered ship settling at last for a quiet harbor."	The comparison to a battered ship sets up the mystery to come. It makes me think that he will not have the quiet life he hopes for, but that he will have the life experience to handle whatever is about to happen.
54	"Meanwhile, the poor babelfish, by effectively removing all barriers to communication between the different races and cultures has caused more and bloodier wars than anything else in the history of creation."	This is so ironic. Being able to communicate with anyone should create peace and understanding, but the author is commenting on human nature when he says being able to understand others only causes conflict. It's funny 'cause it's true.

Vocabulary: Choose 12 words from your book. Look for words that seem familiar or that you've heard before, but that you couldn't define on your own. Then, complete a word chart for each one. Make sure you include the page number where you found each word. To create your own chart, you can use the Word template provided or, if you don't have Word, create a similar document in the program you use.

For each word, you must include:

- the word.
- the sentence that uses the word, along with the page number.
- a definition that is appropriate for the way the word is used in the sentence.
- an illustration of the word's meaning.
- your own sentence correctly using the word.

Examples: Below are two sample entries, one from each novel, to use as a guide.

<p>1. Fallible</p>	<p>3. Definition</p> <p>Adjective: liable to err; weak; imperfect</p>		<p>5. The athlete's confidence made him seem as if he was not <i>fallible</i>, but his opponent found a weakness.</p>
<p>1. Callousness</p>	<p>3. Definition</p> <p>Noun: insensitivity; lack of feelings or sympathy</p>		<p>5. When the teacher refused to let the senior make up his final exam and graduate, he was surprised at her callousness.</p>

English IV
Summer Reading Vocabulary Table

1. Term	3. Definition	4. Picture	5. On Your Own Sentence
2. Sentence from Novel			

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