

READING RESPONSE JOURNAL

- 1. Plot:** Are the conflicts physical, intellectual, moral, or emotional? What special literary techniques does the author use to develop his or her plot?
- 2. Point of View:** What point of view does the narration take? Is it singular or plural, limited or omniscient, used to reveal or conceal?
- 3. Characterization:** How does the author draw his or her characters? Which characters are dynamic, static, contrasting, or complimentary?
- 4. Theme:** Does the novel have a new insight or a truth about life or human nature?
- 5. Symbol:** Does the novel make use of allegory, symbols, to reinforce its meaning?
Imagery: What images are used to further the mental picture of the novel?
- 6. Irony:** Does the novel make use of situational, dramatic, or verbal irony?
- 7. Tone:** What type of emotional effect does the novel produce (Satire, tragic, comic)?
- 8. Form:** Does the novel reveal allegory, realism, naturalism or fantasy and how may it be seen as unique in its time period as a literary development?
- 9. Language:** What type of language does the author use? Is it formal or colloquial? Give examples of some representative phrases, speeches, or words.

Vocabulary-Make a vocabulary list to define any words in which you are unfamiliar.

Directions

Use selected quotations and then comment on these quotes from the novel for your plot summary. This is the one type of writing in this course in which the first person voice will be encouraged and rewarded. In addition to the details of the story, I will be looking for your personal responses which may begin with "I feel that Gulliver is being overly naive," or "I can't agree with Jane's actions at the conclusion of this chapter because..." or "If I were Jude, I would have chosen a different action." Your authentic interaction with the novel will be truly revealed in your first person voice and your original reactions to a work, which cannot be duplicated in the condensation of details and facts found in Monarch, Cliff or Baron's notes. Journals will be graded on quality and content. You should aim for 4-6 pages per novel.