

## *Reading Response Questions*

Please respond to one of the questions below and apply it to your book when finished reading. Responses for each book should be at least **100 words** typed when finished. *Remember to put the book's title and author at the top in **MLA format and share with your teacher when done!***

### *Discussion Questions for fiction*

- What was unique about the setting of the book and how did it enhance or take away from the story?
- What specific themes (remember themes are only one or two words) or lessons did the author emphasize throughout the novel? What do you think he or she is trying to get across to the reader?
- Do the characters seem real and believable? Can you relate to their problems or crisis? To what extent do they remind you of yourself or someone you know?
- How do characters change or evolve throughout the course of the story? What events trigger such changes?
- Could this book relate to a current or past event in history? How So?
- What is the author's purpose in writing this book? Why do you think that?
- Did certain parts of the book make you uncomfortable? If so, why did you feel that way? Did this lead to a new understanding or awareness of some aspect of your life you might not have thought about before?
- Were you satisfied with the ending? What would you change if you could?
- If you had been the main character in this story, would you have acted differently? Explain why or how.
- Who was your favorite character in the story? Why do you like this character? Do you share personality traits with this character? Explain why or how.

### *Discussion Questions for Nonfiction (informational and biography)*

- What did you find **surprising** about the facts introduced in this book? Why are these facts surprising?
- How has reading this book changed your opinion of a certain person or topic?
- Does the author present information in a way that is interesting and insightful, and if so, how does he or she achieve this?
- How has the book increased your interest in the subject matter?
- What was the purpose of the book? How can you tell?
- Why is this topic important?
- Tell one thing this book reminded you of and why.
- Write two questions you have that you could do research to find out more about. Why did you pick these questions, and what sort of research do you think you could do?

### *Questions for Poetry*

- **Tone** What is the poet's *tone* of voice or range of feeling? One tone may dominate, but most

good poems cover a range of subtle emotions. Do you see any interesting, unusual, or apt word choices here? Where do you find the poet's word choice to be particularly important or effective? Why?

- **Intention.** What do you think is the poet's aim? What effects does he or she want to produce?
- **Themes.** Note thematic repetitions and patterns. What specific themes (remember themes are only one or two words) or lessons did the author emphasize throughout the book? What do you think he or she is trying to get across to the reader? Why do characters or the poet-narrator act as they do?
- **Patterns of Text** In what ways do **sound** patterns like **alliteration, rhyme, and rhythm** relate to **sense** patterns (themes)? How do sound and **rhythm** echo or reinforce sense, feeling, and intention? What pictures does the author put into your mind? Do you see any patterns formed by these images? In what ways do these patterns contribute to the total effect?
- **Text Connections** How can you relate to the poem? Does the poem remind you of any other texts, movies, or current and/or events? What in the poem reminds you of this?
- **Response:** Which passages in the poem do you respond to most strongly and why?