

Weekly Reading Blog

At the end of each week (by Saturday at midnight), you will complete a reading journal as an online blog. You will be responding to the readings we discussed in class that week. For example, your blog post for Week 1 will discuss the readings from Week 1 and will be due by midnight on Saturday 1/23 (the end of Week 1). Each of your journals should be *at least* 300 words and are worth 20 points. Please see the included grading rubric.

Instructions for creating your blog:

- Go to www.blogger.com
- If you have a Google account already, sign in. Start creating your blog (including choosing a title and layout).
- If you do not have a Google account, click on tab "Create a blog". Create a Google account then start choosing details about your blog (including the title and layout).
- It is incredibly easy to set up the blog, but if you are having trouble with the details (design, gadgets, etc) let me know and I will help.
- Send your blog title and domain name to Dr. Kikendall so she can link your blog to the class one she created.
- Choose a layout, background, colors, text, etc.
- I would like these blogs to be public so that we can all read one another's posts, but if you are worried about privacy/security, then simply do not put your name on the blog or in the web address. I am happy to help with this – just come see me.

**See the blog Dr. Kikendall created: <http://en201spring16.blogspot.com/>

Instructions for writing your weekly post:

- Length: It should be at least 300 words, but don't hesitate to write more if you have more to say.
- Type: It can be analytical, creative, or a combination of the two.
- Content: You can discuss the plot, the characters, the point of view, the style, the diction, the genre, the author, historical or cultural context, or any other aspect of the reading. Try not to discuss the same element every time, though, and do NOT simply summarize the plot. Whatever you choose to write about, you should always refer to at least one specific example from the text itself and explain why that particular detail/quote is important or interesting. You should also attempt to connect the reading to something else we've read this semester or something you read on your own.
- Medium: This particular medium (a blog) allows you to explore the reading in creative ways. Find ways to add images, videos, and other multimedia components to your blog posts. In addition, the reason I have you creating a public reading journal is to encourage conversation. Please read some of your classmates' posts each week. In Monday's class, I will ask students for comments about their classmates' blogs. Those who have an answer will get 1 extra credit point.