

# Book Club Unit

## Reflective Writing Assessment

**Directions:** You will write a thoughtful **1-2 page formal reflection** in which you consider how you were affected by the book you selected for the book club unit. You must respond to the prompt, but you can expand your focus by responding to one or more of the guiding questions provided.

**Prompt:** How did your novel choice change your view of yourself and/or the world?

**Some guiding questions to consider:**

**About the book:**

- Did you identify with one of the characters in the novel? If so, how and why?
- Did the book reveal a universal truth that you made a personal connection to and/or helped deepen your understanding about life?
- Can the novel be viewed in a larger context as a social criticism?

**About being a member of a book club:**

- How did your experience as a participant in your book club deepen your understanding of your book or of the way books can enhance conversations and connections between people?
- Did this experience of selecting a book and reading independently change your view of yourself as a reader?

**About book clubs in general:**

- Which book club meeting did you enjoy the most and why? Was there a specific task you found to be most beneficial?
- As a reader and a student, do you prefer participating in book clubs or reading whole class novels or plays? Explain the benefits/drawbacks of each.

You should cite textual evidence from the book as well as from your discussions and your own life. The more details and examples you provide, the more effective your reflection will be. Your closing remarks should convey to your reader the broader significance of what you learned from your book, and express to them why it matters. Avoid summary as your audience will have read the book.

Your paper will be graded using the following guidelines for a total of 100 points:

**Format and Content \_\_\_/60**

- Interesting/insightful response to the prompt using specific examples from discussions or the text \_\_\_/25
- At least two well-chosen quotations from the novel seamlessly integrated into the reflection in order to make a direct and meaningful connection \_\_\_/10
- Creative and interesting title \_\_\_/5
- Clear topic sentence and closing sentence \_\_\_/10
- Proper MLA format/Font/Type Size \_\_\_/5
- 1-2 pages in length \_\_\_/5

**Writing Style \_\_\_/40**

- Clarity/precision \_\_\_/10
- Style/descriptiveness/ word choice \_\_\_/10
- Knowledge of language and conventions \_\_\_/10
- Organization/Progression of ideas \_\_\_/10