

Response to Literature Questions

- Write the title of the book, the name of the author and the date the book was written. Think about what you want to say about the book. Spend a few minutes "free writing" about it. How do you "free write"? Just take a pen and a notebook and start writing your thoughts about the book. Keep writing for five minutes without stopping. Don't worry about spelling, neatness, or punctuation. The aim of free writing is to get your ideas flowing. If you get stuck, try answering some of these questions:
- Why do you think the author wrote the story?
- Which characters interested you and why?
- What is the most important moment in the story and why?
- How did the author tell the story? Did he or she use a lot of description? Did he or she use dialogue? Do you think the author told the story well?

Assessing the Response to Literature

- Does your first paragraph introduce your reader to the book, its title, author and plot? Does it share your main idea? Is your main idea clear?
- Do the next three paragraphs support your main idea? Do they help the reader understand your main idea more fully than if they just read the first paragraph? Does each paragraph discuss one example from the book? Do you use quotes from the book?
- Does your last paragraph summarize the main idea and supporting details? Do they leave the reader with a clear idea of your message?
- Give your book report a title. Your title should tell the reader what the book report is about. You might use the book's title as part of your title. For example, one title could be: "The Secret Garden: A Book About Growing."