

Reading Journal Expectations – Hemingway and Modernism

As you read your book of choice (*The Sun Also Rises*, *Farewell to Arms*, *In Our Time*) you are expected to keep a reading journal that you will share with your reading circles every day.

In this reading journal, you will do the following three times a week (Sunday, Monday, Tues/Wed, Thursday)

1. Write a brief summary of pages read (assume 25 pages a night).
2. Write two questions for discussion for your group. Consider questions of characterization, theme, style (Modernism!), setting, etc. These should be questions you can discuss as a group – not questions you know the answers to, or factual questions you can easily research. Go heavy on the “why” and “how” questions.
3. Write out two “quotes of note” from the reading. These quotes should be notable – and you should be able to suggest **why** they are notable. For example, you might quote an evocative description, a startling metaphor, a statement of character purpose, a statement of authorial intent, a thematic connection, a violation of the traditional syntax and coherence of narrative language, a departure from standard ways of representing characters etc.
4. Track two themes. One of these themes should be a representation of the world as an “immense panorama of futility and anarchy” and the other is for you to determine. These themes will develop and change as the books continue – your job is to track that development. You can use a timeline, or simply take notes on how the theme begins to take shape in your book and how it develops.