

English 12: British Literature and Composition
Fall Break Independent Reading Project
for 200 potential bonus points

Double-Entry Journal:

While independently reading Oscar Wilde's *The Importance of Being Earnest*, you will complete a response journal with 15 entries. Following the model below from "The Story of the Three Bears," number each entry, write the quotation including page and line numbers, identify the type of connection, and compose a response of at least three sentences. In your connection **you must clearly compare** the quotation from the play to your life, another part of the play, or another text.

- Personal Connection
Contemplate how the quotation connects to some aspect of your personal knowledge and experience. The quotation may remind you of a situation you have been in, seen, or read about.
- Intratextual Connection
Reflect on how the quotation connects to another passage (which you also cite) from the same text. Think about ways in which the connected passages emphasize character, setting, conflict, theme, or another element of the work.
- Intertextual Connection
Ponder how the quotation connects to another text (literature, film, media, music, art, historical event, or current event). Consider similarities that the two texts share (characterization, mood, plot, setting, theme, tone), and discuss how the two texts relate to one another.

Quotation		Connection	
1	"If Goldilocks had remembered what her mother had told her, she would have waited till the Bears came home, and then, perhaps, they would have asked her to breakfast; for they were good Bears--a little rough, as the manner of Bears is, but for all that very good-natured and hospitable. But Goldilocks forgot, and set about helping herself." (page 1, paragraph 2)	personal	As a child, I had—and still do have—a strong memory. I did not, as Goldilocks does, forget my mother's advice. I simply chose to ignore it often and make my own decisions. Thus, negative consequences were often crucial learning experiences for me.
2	"She had never seen the little house before, and it was such a strange little house that she forgot all the things her mother had told her about being polite: first she looked in at the window, and then she peeped in at the keyhole; and seeing nobody in the house, she lifted the latch." (page 1, paragraph 2)	intratextual	At the end of the story, Goldilocks runs "home to her mother, as fast as ever she could" (page 2, paragraph 15). Clearly, Goldilocks failed to listen to her mother's advice at the beginning of her journey. Now, in contrast, she ends her ordeal by seeking the comfort of home and her mother.
3	"Then Goldilocks went upstairs into the bed-chamber in which the Three Bears slept. And first she lay down upon the bed of the Great Huge Bear; but that was too high at the head for her. And next she lay down upon the bed of the Middle-sized Bear, and that was too high at the foot for her. And then she lay down upon the bed of the Little Small Wee Bear; and that was neither too high at the head nor at the foot, but just right. So she covered herself up comfortably, and lay there till she fell fast asleep." (page 1, paragraph 5)	intertextual	Despite being warned repeatedly about politeness by her mother, Goldilocks cannot seem to control her selfish desires. The story suggests that Goldilocks, fast asleep, may be punished for her lack of self-control. She is like those who have committed sins of personal weakness and are plagued by heavy winds and rain in the upper level of hell in Dante's <i>Inferno</i> .

Vocabulary Acquisition:

During your independent reading, you will locate 20 words that are unfamiliar to you and that you would like to incorporate into your own vocabulary.

1. Write the sentence from the play with the word in it and indicate page and line number in a parenthetical citation.
2. Write the definition(s) of the word. If multiple definitions exist, choose the definition that fits the context of the book's sentence.
3. Create a sentence of your own using the new word in proper context.

Due Date:

- October 14-15, 2009
15 Double-Entry Journal entries (8 points each) and 20 vocabulary words due (4 points each)