

How to write a Reading Log / Book Journal

(Everything must be handwritten!)

Here are some ideas about what you may include in a reading log. Please note that the following 12 points must be included:

1., 2., 5., 6., 7., 12., 13., 14., 17., 25., 27. (+ choose one of the following: 21., 23., 24.)

Apart from that it is up to you which ones you want to include. The more, the better! But you should have fun when doing the tasks, too.

The main rule is that you must put the work on the ideas in the exact same order in your reading log as it is used here.

If you have your own ideas, please decide where they belong and include them there accordingly:

- before reading the novel (1. - 3.)

- while reading the novel (4. - 6.)

- after having read the novel (7. - 29. Some of these tasks can be made while reading, too. This is the case with numbers: 8., 9., 12., 18., 19., 21. You can decide!)

1. About my novel: title?, author?, genre?, year?, where can you buy / get it?

2. Expectations – Write down your first thoughts when you read the title and your expectations of the novel.

3. Three questions to the novel – Write down three questions to the text.

4. My first thoughts – Write down your first thoughts after having read the first chapter / the first 10 pages.

5. Do I like reading this text? - (also after the first chapter / 10 pages) Write down why you like about reading the novel and what you might not like or find difficult about reading the novel.

6. Overview – Take notes for each chapter / part so you will be able to tell others about your novel (cheat sheet like).

7. About my novel's main character – Write a character analysis of him/her and do not forget to give evidence from the text.

8. A picture of my novel's main character – Draw or paint your novel's main character and label your result.

9. A post card to my novel's main character – Write a post card (you could e.g. use a real one and add it to your reading log).

10. About another character in my novel – Which character besides the main character do you like? Write a characterisation of him/her and give evidence from the text. At the end of your characterisation give

reasons why you like him/her.

11. This is what we share

- 1) Choose one character of the novel.
- 2) Describe his/ her characteristics.
- 3) Which of these do you share?
- 4) Which characteristics do you have besides that?

12. Diary entry – Put yourself in the position of one of the characters and write a diary entry.

13. This is what I liked – Write down the page and the lines and then say why you liked it.

14. This is what I did not like – Write down the page and the lines and then say why you did not like it.

15. This made me sad / laugh – Write down the page and the lines and then say why it made you sad / laugh.

16. This has been very special for me – Write down the page and the lines and then say why it has been very special for you

17. An important sentence – Did you notice a special sentence? Write it down and explain why it is important.

18. Change a part – Imagine you could change a part in your novel. Which one would it be? How would you change it?

19. Me in my novel – You open the door to your novel and become a character in it. Write a small text in which you are part of the novel.

20. I would love this character to be my friend – Write down your reasons.

21. Characters talking to each other – Look for a part in the novel where you could add a dialogue and write that dialogue.

22. Advertisement – You want to advertise your novel. Create an advertisement using a good text and also pictures if you like.

23. A continuation – You have an idea about how your novel could go on? Write it down!

24. A time journey – Your novel now takes place 100 years back in time. Write a short version of it.

25. A review – You like your novel? Write a review for other people your age.

26. What I never want to forget – Write down what you never want to forget about the novel.

27. A letter to the author – Write a letter to the author of the novel.

28. A comic – Draw a comic about a specific event in the novel.

29. A **poem** – Write a poem about your novel.