

REDUCTION ASSIGNMENT

To help you engage in close, interactive reading, you will be required to create a REDUCTION. Your REDUCTION must follow these specific guidelines:

- You are limited to **one sheet of paper** that you should turn sideways.
- Somewhere on the page, you must include
- The **Title** and **Author** of work.
- All **characters** that you feel are important.
- **Quotes** that you consider **significant**.
- **Symbols** and **Motifs*** in the story.
- The **THEME(S)****
- Also, consider the following elements to include:
- How the **setting** helps to color the theme(s).
- The important **points** and **episodes/situations** that you feel are **crucial to understanding** theme(s).
- You will use **NO complete sentences** (except when citing quotes). You may draw pictures, use color, or whatever you feel is appropriate in conveying the work's meaning.

Simply *having* a reduction is not the goal. **CREATING** your reduction is! It is the **PROCESS** of *doing* that helps you learn and retain the story's content.

Your Reduction should not be a mere type of outline. It needs to be **VISUAL**. It should be an all-inclusive creative expression—your ready source for future reference (a.k.a. a glorified cheat-sheet)

* Motifs: Images, details, episodes or even words that recur throughout the story

**Theme: How the story provides a shape or a form to the turmoil of human experience.