

Reading Response Paper

A reading response is a specific kind of essay that asks you as a reader to engage critically with an assigned text, in this case our books “I Am a Man” and “Sacajawea”.

Write a paper responding to this question:

Sacajawea: Sacajawea serves as a guide and interpreter for the Lewis and Clark expedition. What challenges and obstacles does she face on this journey, and how does she react to and overcome the challenges? What can you learn from Sacajawea’s experience?

I Am a Man: What were the main challenges that Chief Standing Bear faced on his journey for justice and how did he overcome them? Who helped or hindered him on his journey? And what lessons can you learn from Chief Standing Bear and his experiences?

FORMAT:

- Write a 1-3 page paper. Include your name and the date at the top. Use a 12 point easy to read font. Make sure you include a title.

Organization of your paper:

- An introduction that identifies the book to which you are responding and provides some brief context about the work, as well as including your main point you want to focus on. (This is called a thesis statement and is generally one sentence. This will serve as a summary of the argument you will make in the rest of your paper.)
- The body of your text focuses on the main idea or ideas. The body contains your response to the book itself, including evidence from the text to illustrate the points you are making.
- Lastly, a conclusion that briefly reiterates the main points of your argument and your thesis statement.

Some DO’s and DON’TS

- DO include brief quotes that are relevant to your analysis. (And make sure they are in quotations.)
- DO be sure to include a thesis statement! (A sentence stating the main point of your paper.)
- DO leave time for revision and proofreading!
- DO make sure the paper is in your own words.
- DON’T rely too heavily on incredibly long quotations from the text. Brief quotes are good, but we want to hear your own words.
- DON’T just say you like or dislike an aspect of the book—if you do, you must explain why and support your claim well.