

Prewriting Prompts for Writing about Literature

Directions: Complete these exercises and then discuss them with a peer. Write down any significant ideas that transpire in the discussion on the back of this worksheet.

1. What in the literature sticks out to you as a reader? Write down any specific words, phrases, patterns, symbols, or observations that struck you. What makes these qualities of the literature particularly striking?

2. What could have inspired the author to write this literature? Are there any historical events that could have influenced the literature? How would you interpret the author's mindset?

3. Can you relate to any of the characters or any of the circumstances depicted in the literature? Which ones? What do you relate to in the literature or do you find it difficult to relate to it? How? What parts? Write down your reactions to specific images, events, characters, etc.

4. Write down any questions that you as a reader have about the literature. Also, write down any unfamiliar words or phrases you encountered and look them up.