

# Using Response Logs

A response log is the place where you can record your initial responses—thoughts, feelings, questions, and insights—immediately after you have finished reading a segment of text. To keep your thinking fresh, always try to do your response writing as soon after you’ve finished reading as you can.

Start each response on a new page of your response log, and date each entry. When you write, try to write steadily without stopping. Don’t worry about spelling, punctuation, and grammar in this writing for now; just try to capture as many of your ideas as you can. Try to write for a full page or five minutes.

Alternately, you may choose to draw your response to your reading. Try to focus on elements of the story that spoke to you strongly. Make notes on your drawing so a viewer can understand your thinking without your needing to explain it.