

**10 Honors: *Into the Wild* by Jon Krakauer & *The Catcher in the Rye* by JD Salinger**

**ENGLISH 10 HONORS**

**I.) Dialectical Journals for *Into the Wild***

“Dialectical” means “the art or practice of arriving at the truth by using conversation involving question and answer.” So, as you read *Into the Wild* and complete your dialectical journal, think of yourself as conversing with the text in order to better process and understand the reading.

- Complete a dialectical journal like the one below for Jon Krakauer’s *Into the Wild*.
- Journal must have **10** entries (quotes **and** commentary)
- Guiding Theme: According to Jon Krakauer, “Some readers admired the boy (Chris McCandless) immensely for his courage and noble ideals; others fulminated that he was a reckless idiot, a wacko, a narcissist who perished out of arrogance and stupidity.”
  - Choose passages that you think speak to McCandless’s ‘noble ideals’ or ‘wacko’ narcissism and explore your reactions to them.
  - Or Choose passages you find interesting, puzzling, significant, etc.

**Procedure:**

- Be sure to write the entire quote from the passage word for word. Include the page number and the date the quote was recorded. In the right column, write your response to the passage (ideas/insights, questions, reflections, and comments on each passage). Push yourself for intelligent “conversation.”
- Model your chart after the one below, which uses Tim O’Brien’s *The Things They Carried* as an example.
- Typed or handwritten is fine. If done in a notebook, work must be legible.

**II.) Dialectical Journal for *Catcher in the Rye***

Complete a dialectical journal for *Catcher in the Rye*.

- Journal must have **10** entries (quotes **and** commentary)
- Guiding Theme: Apply the same analysis you did for Chris McCandless to Holden Caulfield.
  - Choose passages that you think speak to Holden’s ‘noble ideals’/heroism or his ‘wacko’ narcissism and explore your reactions to them.
  - Or Choose passages you find interesting, puzzling, significant, etc.

**III.) Sample Dialectical Journal**

<b>Title of Work:</b> <b>Author:</b>	
<b>Quote from Source w/Page Number</b>	<b>Commentary: inference, insight, prediction, leverage question</b>
“-they carried like freight trains; they carried it on their backs and shoulders-and for all the ambiguities of Vietnam, all the mysteries and unknowns, there was at least the single abiding certainty that they would never be at a loss for things to carry”. Pg. 2 (6/22/10)	O’Brien provides excellent visual details here of what each soldier in Vietnam would carry for day-to-day fighting. He makes you feel the physical weight of what soldiers have to carry for simple survival. When you combine the emotional weight of loved ones at home, the fear of death, and the responsibility for the men you fight with, with this physical weight, you start to understand what soldiers in Vietnam dealt with every day.