

## Examples: Two Response Journal Entries

### *The Pearl* by John Steinbeck

It is not necessary to repeat the prompt; we have repeated it here only for the purpose of example.

Excerpt(s) or Quote(s) with Page Numbers	Example Student Responses
<p>For a long time Kino stood in front of the gate with Juana beside him. Slowly he put his suppliant hat on his head. Then, without warning, he struck the gate a crushing blow with his fist. (6)</p>	<p>Make a global reflection. How does the passage connect to society and the world in general? What conclusions might you draw about people and/or life?</p> <p><i>Kino is not unlike any human being who is desperate. He needs to find care for his child before he dies, yet he continuously has doors closed in his face. Kino's actions represent the inner turmoil he is experiencing and also symbolize the feelings of helplessness that many individuals experience when faced with daily struggles to make ends meet, care for their children, provide for their family, make a better life for themselves, etc.</i></p>
<p>All manner of people grew interested in Kino - people with things to sell and people with favors to ask. Kino had found the Pearl of the World. The essence of pearl mixed with essence of men and a curious dark residue was precipitated. Every man suddenly became related to Kino's pearl, and Kino's pearl went into the dreams, the speculations, the schemes, the plans, the futures, the wishes, the needs, the lusts, the hungers, of everyone, and only one person stood in the way and that was Kino, so that he became curiously every man's enemy. (12)</p>	<p>Explain, show, or interpret how this passage is important. What is it showing? What do you learn or see? New insights? Significance? What do you learn from the quote/text?</p> <p><i>It's significant that suddenly Kino is popular. Now that Kino has something other men want, he is someone to be looked up to when before he couldn't get anyone to look at him or his sick child. I think the dark residue that mixes with the essence of the pearl and the essence of men is evil; the pearl and man can be good, at their core they are good but together or under the right conditions they can create evil. the last part of the quote talks about how that evil happens -- everyone wanted the pearl for the money it could bring; they dreamed of it and hoped for it, but Kino owned the pearl since he found it. And, since Kino found the pearl and has possession of it, he is an enemy; he has something they want.</i></p>