

The Red Badge of Courage – Summer Reading Assignment

English 10 – Pre AP, Mr. Chris Taibbi

Part One: Journal

For this book, as you read, I'd like you to keep a journal. You may write about the plot, the characters, the conflicts, predictions you have, what you think about the book, how the book relates/reminds you of something in your own life, etc. Use the attached list of journal starters as a way of getting started if you have no idea what to write about.

- There are 24 chapters in this book. You must have a minimum of TEN (10) journal entries that show your thinking throughout the novel. In other words, do not write 5 journal entries about what happened in the first 3 chapters.
- Each journal entry should be 2-3 paragraphs.
- The title of THREE of these journal entries should be the following: CONFLICT, THEME, and SETTING. For each of these entries, make sure that you reflect on these specific topics ONLY.

Part Two: Essay – Choose ONE of the suggestions below to write a 1 page double-spaced paper.

1. As an impressionistic writer, Crane uses visual and aural details to tell his story. Find examples of each, instances in which Crane's evocation of color, of light, of sound make a particular scene come alive, or add to the intensity of a mood Crane is trying to create.
2. How does Crane reveal changes in the soldiers, especially in their attitudes toward the war, without ever actually saying that they have changed? Find and cite passages that support your answer.
3. Do you like Henry? What traits make him likable or unlikable? Is this a question Crane himself would think is important? Why or why not?
4. What is heroism to you? Describe an act of heroism you have witnessed in real life or in a movie or on a television show. Would Stephen Crane agree with your definition? Why or why not?