IRP Notes Package

The following questions/tasks will constitute your IRP notes package. **Please provide page references as often as possible**

**1st 30-50 pages**

1. What main concern or associations are suggested by the title of the novel? How does the title relate to the first 50pages? **Do this question before reading commencing the novel!!!**
2. **What is the setting (time and place)? Is it a vital factor to the story?**

🡪 For the first part of the question, I would like a half-page to a page response that places your novel in its historical setting. If the setting is the 20th century, I would like some information on the history of the nation (please ask for clarification if you’re unsure as to what I mean). For the latter part of this question I would like you to comment on it as you read and also when you have completed the novel.

1. What initial situation of unrest or conflict is established in the opening chapters? What central characters associated with this situation are introduced? How are they related?
2. A one page personal response. Reflect on your reading experience: likes, dislikes, moment of uncertainties, surprises, take some guesses on the direction of the novel

(I was impressed by…I noticed that…I wonder about…Some questions I have are…I don’t understand… I now understand why/how/what…Something I noticed/appreciate/don’t appreciate/wonder about is…I predict…An interesting word/sentence/ thought is…This part of the story makes me feel…This reminds me of…I never thought…I was surprised by)

**Middle 30-50 pages**

1. Identify special techniques, such as contrast, irony, symbolism (any motifs [recurring symbol]), and exaggeration; what is achieved by the use of these techniques? What are some of the more important instances of symbolism

**Last 30-50 pages**

1. What change(s) have taken place in the main character(s) between the opening situation and the conclusion of the novel? How has this change come about?
2. What is the climax of the novel, why?
3. Re-evaluate the title, compare your initial response. Is the title effective, yes or no, why?
4. What are some of the major topics of the novel? Which is the most prominent one? How do these topics transform into a theme statement?

A one page personal response. Reflect on reading the entire novel: likes, dislikes, moment of uncertainties, surprises, recommendations, is it worthy of study, its merits and weaknesses (I was impressed by…I noticed that…I wonder about…Some questions I have are…I don’t understand… I now understand why/how/what…Something I noticed/appreciate/don’t appreciate/wonder about is…I predict…An interesting word/sentence/ thought is…This part of the story makes me feel…This reminds me of…I never thought…I was surprised by)

**Quotations Page (whole novel)**

A minimum of 10 thematically relevant quotations, followed by analysis. Please follow the format below:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Quotation** | **Analysis** |
| “We live as we dream, alone” (*HofD 32*) | This quotation is significant for 2 reasons: first, the quotation once again makes use of the dream motif. This recurring reference adds to the dream like atmosphere of the narrative and also calls into question the veracity or Marlow’s tale. Lastly, the quotation also somewhat discusses the aspect of solitude; an important notion because of the existential dilemmas that plague both solitary leads: Marlow and Kurtz. |
|  |  |
|  |  |

Thanks to Bryan Chu for his critical eye and invaluable input.

See rubric online, hand in with notes package.