

Student Name \_\_\_\_\_

Book or anthology title: \_\_\_\_\_

Author name: \_\_\_\_\_

MLA CITATION: (see *Standard MLA Book Citation, bottom right*)

Type of nonfiction \_\_\_\_\_ Excerpt Page # \_\_\_\_\_

**USE THIS SHEET TO MAKE NOTES; USE ADDITIONAL PAPER AS NEEDED  
NO FORMAL ESSAY IS REQUIRED; SIMPLY ANSWER THE QUESTIONS**

1. What expertise or experience does the author have that makes him or her a reliable source for information in this book? Use more pages as needed.

2. What is the main idea of this book? If there is more than one main idea, list it (them). Justify your main idea(s) with information from the text. Use more pages as needed.

3. What literary devices does the author use? These might include imagery, different types of figurative language, effective sentence structure, interesting organization, rhetorical questions, or other devices. Give examples. Use more pages as needed.

4. What, particularly, does the excerpt illustrate? (main idea, author style, other) Use more pages as needed.

**ATTACH YOUR NOTES  
TO THIS SHEET.**

**TURN IN ALL INFORMATION FIRST  
WEEK OF SCHOOL, DATE TBA**

**ASSIGNMENT IS WORTH  
50 POINTS**

MAKE NOTES on the book or collection's **main idea**. A main idea (like a theme in fiction) is always a statement, never only a word. Know enough about the **author** to share with the class what might have influenced the writing. Be specific about the author's **style**. Be ready with an **excerpt** from the book or collection; point out any specific techniques used by the writer. What were its strong points? Concentrate on the main idea or ideas and on the author's ability to get his or her point across successfully.



Questions? [bwhite@joplin.k12.mo.us](mailto:bwhite@joplin.k12.mo.us)



**STANDARD MLA BOOK CITATION:**

Author Last, Author First. *Book Title*.

Publisher Name: City, Year of publication. Print.

e.g.,

Lee, Harper. *To Kill a Mockingbird*. Viking Press: Dallas, 1989. Print.