

Curation statement: This writing to learn activity (Elbow, 1994) works to encourage thoughtful and critical reading of a text. It asks students to complete two sections/columns (My Ideas & My Questions) as they are reading and bring them to class. After reading columns 1 and 2, another student in the class responds to those ideas in column 3. A third student then reads columns 1, 2, and 3 and responds to those ideas in column 4. The dialogic journal emulates an academic conversation in written form (Bartholomae, 1985; Bruffee, 1984). After the "conversation" is over, students flip over the piece of paper to write a reflection on the process and ideas discussed throughout it.

Tags: writing outcome 1, writing to learn, teaching writing, writing across the curriculum

Dialogic Journal

While reading...

1. Create four a piece of legal size paper or two pages in your daybook.

1 2 3 4

2. Title the first column *My Ideas & Notes*. Use this space to respond to the following questions while reading.

- What ideas are interesting or significant? What are some golden quotes you noticed?
- What would you want to share with your students? Why?
- What would you like to share with your colleagues? Why?

--	--	--	--

3. Title the second column *My Questions/Concerns*. Use this space to respond to the following questions.

- What broad or specific questions or concerns do you have about the readings?
- What questions would you like to talk about in more depth?

4. Column three should titled *Response #1* and column four *Response #2*.

Let's Dance!

Round 1: When your neighbor passes you his or her daybook, read through the first two columns and then respond in column three (*Response #1*). Try to focus on one or two specific ideas rather than trying to address many.

Round 2: Read through the first two columns along with Response 1. Write your response to both people's ideas in column 4.

Reflection

At the top of the next page, write *What I'm thinking now...*

- What ideas do you feel are now solidified?
- What new questions have been raised?
- What questions do you feel like you have answers for?
- What new ideas do you have?