Journal Prompts

There are many ways students can utilize journals during the reading of their novels. Listed below are some suggestions for students to begin journaling:
- Summarize the events of the chapter.
- Describe the setting.
- Identify story characters.
- Describe character relationships.
- Describe the mood.
- Predict outcomes.
- Talk about the story problems and look for solutions.
- Compare to personal experiences.
- Explain/tell how the story makes you feel.
- Offer your opinion of a character.
- Compare a character in this story to another character about whom you have read.
- Explain/tell some of the hidden meanings you have found.
- Tell whether or not the characters have changed throughout the story.
- Critique the writing.
- Reflect on the author’s use of language.

Journals can also provide an opportunity for students to illustrate as well as write about their readings.
- Character Maps
- Webs
- Plot Maps
- Venn Diagrams
- Sketches of Characters
- Charts
- Diagrams