This year we will be using interactive notebooks. We will use one composition notebook each semester, which means we will use one composition notebook for the first and second nine weeks and one composition notebook for the third and fourth nine weeks.

**What is an interactive student notebook?**
The interactive notebook is more than a notebook in which to take notes. It is a way of collecting and processing information. The purpose of the interactive student notebook is to help students become creative, independent, reflective thinkers, readers and writers. Students will be able to express their own ideas, processes, and apply skills learned in class.

The Interactive Notebook uses a right side and left side to help you organize your learning. The right page includes traditional class assignments: notes, worksheets, etc. The left side is a place for you to process that information.

**Template:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Left page</th>
<th>Right page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Personal side</td>
<td>Information side</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>You interact with the information in your unique and creative way.</td>
<td>You write or glue in information from class (today’s lesson).</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**IN activity**
Purpose: focus on today’s activity
Examples: pre-test, quick-write, demonstration, T-chart

**THROUGH activity**
Purpose: information from today’s activity (learning)
Examples: textbook or lecture notes, vocabulary, worksheet, concept map

**OUT activity**
Purpose: reflect or apply today’s activity
Examples: quick-write, 3-2-1 summary, diagram, graph

**Specifics**
- Notebooks will be stored in the classroom. (I don’t want you to lose all of your hard work! For open note tests or quizzes, I will allow you to use your interactive notebook. Notice I said for open note tests or quizzes! You will not be allowed to use your notes on all tests or quizzes.)
- We will set aside time in class to organize and set up your interactive notebook.
• Number the pages sequentially. Do not remove any pages. Both right and left pages should be numbered. It is important that all of us have the same information on the same page.
• The first pages are reserved for a table of contents.
• Handouts, “foldables” and other papers should be glued or taped in place. No staples.
• The only supplies you need to provide are colored pencils or markers. All other supplies such as tape, glue and highlighters will be supplied in the classroom.
• Notebooks will be graded every nine weeks using self, peer and teacher checklists.
• The Master ISN book (teacher notebook) will be available for review at all times. If you are absent, it is your responsibility to obtain the Master ISN book and complete the assignment(s) from the day(s) you were absent.

How will I be graded?

Please refer to the Interactive Notebook Rubric pdf attachment. The ISN will constitute as one, 100 point test grade.

Want to see some examples?
Scroll down to view student samples provided by “A Teacher’s Treasure” e-book entitled Interactive Student Notebooks. Please note that the following work samples were completed in a literature class. The following student samples were completed in a spiral notebook. We will use a composition notebook in our class. (Composition notebooks are much easier to store and the pages will not come out. I don’t want you to lose your hard work!)
Reasons for Readers Workshop:

- To become lifetime readers
- To enjoy reading
- To learn new words and meanings
- To learn what good readers do
- To learn when and how to abandon books
- To learn how to choose books
- To learn from each other about good books, genres, etc.
- To read with purpose
- Explore new books and topics
- To learn to face yourself
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TYPE</th>
<th>VISUAL</th>
<th>DEFINITION</th>
<th>EXAMPLE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Person vs. Self</td>
<td>![Brain Image]</td>
<td>An INTERNAL conflict that involves the struggle between the character and his/her conscience.</td>
<td>➤ A woman is tempted to steal money from her employer in order to feed her family.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>![Brain Image]</td>
<td>A man tries to decide whether to stay with his family or move to another state to take a better paying job.</td>
<td>➤ A teenager is torn between ditching school with her friends and staying to take a test in a class she is failing.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Person vs. Nature</td>
<td>![Person and Nature Image]</td>
<td>An EXTERNAL conflict that involves a struggle between the character and the elements of nature that are beyond his/her control.</td>
<td>➤ A family is stranded in a snowstorm.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>![Person and Nature Image]</td>
<td>A woman is unable to function because of illness or condition.</td>
<td>➤ A man is stalked by a wild animal in the forest.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Person vs. Person</td>
<td>![Two People Image]</td>
<td>An EXTERNAL conflict that involves a struggle, mental or physical, between two characters in the story.</td>
<td>➤ A husband and wife disagree about how their money should be spent.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>![Two People Image]</td>
<td>Two little boys get into a fistfight.</td>
<td>➤ A boss fires an employee.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Person vs. Society</td>
<td>![Person and Society Image]</td>
<td>An EXTERNAL conflict that involves the struggle between a character and the rules or laws that govern the society in which he/she lives.</td>
<td>➤ A woman is in a hurry and runs a red light.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>![Person and Society Image]</td>
<td>A teenager breaks the curfew set by his parents.</td>
<td>➤ A man stands up for what he believes is right, even though almost everyone else disagrees with him.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
TEXT FEATURES

- BOLD
- Sketch
- tables
- graphs
- italics

How do you identify important features?

- Underline
- Use a highlighter
- Write notes in the margin

What are some common text features?

- Glossary
- Index
- Tables
- Graphs

Why should you look for text features?

- To understand the text better
- To find key information quickly
- To improve comprehension

What text features do you find most useful?

- Glossary
- Index
- Tables
- Graphs

Objective: Learn to identify text features and use them to enhance understanding.