

Jennifer Renee Luyckx, 10/11.4 Reflection

I think that on a personal basis I liked the Literature Discussion Groups because I was able to really focus on one of the four responsibilities as opposed to looking at all four of them at one time. As far as looking at it from a group perspective, I think that our group had some misunderstanding with due dates, even though the majority of us thought that we discussed the due dates and clearly defined what they would be. This may have put us behind a little but in the end everyone was able to complete the given assignments. Because each member of the group was given a certain task or response, no one person had more responsibilities than another person. This has always been a problem in the past with group work because there has always seemed to be one person who did not pull their weight as the other members of the group did.

As far as making one person responsible for a particular task I think that it worked out well for our group. We used the "first-come, first-serve" method, that being that whoever chose a responsibility first was the one who completed that portion of the assignment. I think that everyone contributed equally with their written responses so that we were able to have a good group discussion on each of the books. We each brought up points that others did not notice or consider and were able to give response that actually created more discussion. Not everyone agreed with each other, but I think that is part of a group discussion. When one either agreed or disagreed they were able to support their answer with a good reason. Because of the communication in the first two assignments we were then able to complete the third assignment and have a group discussion comparing the two books. I was amazed at all of the comparisons that these two books had, considered that the theme or nature of the books did not seem like they would be similar. In comparing the two, I discovered that they have a lot in common, not just between the main characters in each story but in the strengths and weaknesses of each of the main characters.

When looking at the various responses I learned that some of the answers could overlap one another depending on how the responder answered the question or interpreted what should be included in their response. Another thing that I learned was different points that people made and the different interpretations of the stories. For example, I did notice that religion was mentioned in [A Wrinkle in Time](#) but it was not something that stuck out to me the way that it did to the person who included this in

their response. Now that I look back I can see all of the clues that show that this was a more significant part of the story instead of something that I thought was just mentioned here and there. The different types of responses also made me realize all of the other hidden textual clues that are in each story that are important in understanding some of the true meanings.

Another thing that I learned from dividing the responses is that it was easier for me to respond to one type of response compared to the other type. I do think that this had to do with the story because to me A Wrinkle in Time was much easier for me to respond to, regardless of which response I would have chosen. For The Wizard of Oz I seemed to struggle more. I don't know if it's because I didn't enjoy the story as much as I did the other or if it could have been that at the time of the response I just was at a loss for words. Either way, I had a much harder time. I also think that because I am such a fan of the movie The Wizard of Oz that I was disappointed in the story. I guess I don't remember it being so different from the movie.

I think this assignment informed my thinking as a reader and a teacher because it made me analyze each book more closely as opposed to being one that I just read for my own pleasure or to an audience. I really enjoyed looking at the different ways that each member of the group interpreted their role and the perspective that they brought to our discussions. It seemed that we all noticed different things in relation to each book and then when we mentioned them in the discussion it was something new for us to look at. It made me want to reread A Wrinkle in Time to see if I missed something along the way. I think that as a teacher this assignment made me realize how informative Literature Circle's are in a classroom. Not only are they a great tool to use to get communication/discussions started about a book but they are also a great tool to use to analyze a book and see what important points different readers observe.