****The Road ***by Cormac McCarthy***

**Name\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_/Class Period\_\_\_\_\_\_/Date Submitted\_\_\_\_\_\_\_Circle the Reading Log # 1 2 3 4 5 6**

Instructions: For roughly every 50 pages, track the seven topics with 1) a **text excerpt/pg. #; 2) a personal response (opinion/reaction)** to your excerpt, and 3) **analysis** of your excerpt’s literary impact/importance; e.g., such as how the excerpt relates to or develops **theme, point of view, selection of detail for emphasis characterization, tone, or narrative structure/conflict. YOU WILL COMPLETE A TOTAL OF SIX LOGS.**

READING LOG

**Text Excerpt/Page # Personal Response Analysis**

Topics

Figurative Language

*(simile, metaphor,*

*understatement,*

*hyperbole, personification)*

**Example Quote** I hate being cold, and I hate gray days. The repetition of long ‘a’ and ‘o’ sounds (**assonance**) seem

Both create a kind of despair and anxiety to draw out the cold and the gray feeling, creating a

« …and the days more gray each one for me. Cold and gray become enemies to **mood** of loneliness and pessimism. Also, the **simile**

than what had gone before. Like the onset my happiness and peace of mind. comparing the cold and gray to a disease that makes one

of some cold glaucoma dimming away of the blind, further impacts the **mood** with an aura

world.” Pg. 3 of melancholy and hopelessness.

**Text Excerpt/Page # Personal Response Analysis**

Religion/Spirituality/Philosophy

*(Prayers, “deep thoughts”)*

Imagery

*(Descriptions*

*using the 5 senses)*

Tone

*The attitude of the speaker, narrator, or*

*author toward his/her subject matter*

**Text Excerpt/Page # Personal Response Analysis**

Symbolism

*(object, color, place, person or*

*other concrete thing that*

*represents a larger more complex*

*layering of ideas and meanings)*

Situational Irony

*(What happens is very different*

*than what you expect)*

Mood/Atmosphere

*(The emotional climate/feel of the text*

*created by author’s diction (word choices)*

*and other literary elements)E.g. a house*

*that feels “haunted and eerie;” a restaurant*

*that feels “romantic and intimate.”*

The Road

MINI ESSAYS CHOICES: **CHOOSE ONE PROMPT & DEVELOP ONE PARAGRAPH THAT INCLUDES A CLAIM PLUS THREE ARGUMENTS, BACKED UP WITH TEXTUAL EVIDENCE AND ANALYSIS OF THE EVIDENCE. Type and bring to class on the first day of class.**

1. **How does the man demonstrate his love for his son in *The Road*?**
2. **Overall, does *The Road* put forth a positive and uplifting view of humanity, or one of darkness and pessimism?**
3. **How do the man and the man's wife differ in their conceptions of death?**
4. **Discuss at least two contrasting ways in which the survivors of the catastrophe deal with the chaos.**
5. **What is the significance of "the fire" to the man and the boy?**
6. **How do the protagonists distinguish the "good guys" from the "bad guys"? Are the protagonists indeed the "good guys"?**
7. **How does the boy's relationship with his father change over the course of their journey?**
8. **What purpose do the father's memories and dreams serve in *The Road*?**
9. **Discuss some of the literary techniques used by McCarthy to evoke and maintain the novel's largely grim and bleak setting.**
10. **Describe the role of trust in the novel.**