

Unit 2 reading journals are an opportunity for us to cultivate our critical reading and writing skills by summarizing, responding, and growing our academic vocabulary by engaging with scholarly arguments. Each viewpoint paper allows us to dive deeper into the conversation about what racism looks like in the 21st century. These brief arguments offer a more nuanced understanding of how racism currently operates as well as expose us to some of the different issues that are being discussed by contemporary scholars.

Instructions



Victor Ray & Alan Aja:
"Racism Isn't about
Ignorance. Some Highly
Educated People Have
Upheld Systemic
Inequality."

1. In your own words (no quotations), summarize the main idea and supporting points of "Racism isn't about ignorance" by Victor Ray and Alan Aja.
2. **What did you find the most interesting, compelling, or confusing about Ray and Aja's argument, "Racism Isn't about Ignorance"? Be specific in your discussion and use quotations from the reading to illustrate and support your claims.**
3. Complete vocabulary building exercise by doing the following:
 - I. Quote a sentence from the assigned reading that includes a vocabulary word you are not familiar with.
 - II. Provide the dictionary definition of your chosen vocabulary word.
 - III. Use your chosen vocabulary word in an original sentence.

[Sample Reading Journal](#) ↓

Grading Rubric

Aim for excellence! These are the criteria for what comprises an "Excellent" rating for a discussion post:

- Submission includes a brief summary of the assigned reading's thesis, or central idea.
- Submission includes a clear analysis, or breakdown, of argumentative tactics that assigned reading uses.
- Submission includes the vocabulary building exercise, which consists of a quoted sentence from assigned reading that includes your chosen vocabulary word, a dictionary definition of chosen vocabulary work, and an original sentence that demonstrates comprehension of the chosen vocabulary word.

Unit 2 Reading Journal Rubric (Ray & Aja)

Criteria	Ratings			Pts
<p>Instruction #1 Summary</p>	<p>3 pts Complete Submission includes the complete summary of assigned reading. You've done a good job of identifying the main idea of the text and distilling each section to its main point.</p>	<p>1.5 pts Needs Improvement Your summary is incomplete and needs more development.</p>	<p>0 pts No submission No summary of the reading submitted.</p>	3 pts
<p>Instruction #2 Critical Response</p>	<p>3 pts Complete Submission clearly follows instructions and provides a complete response that uses examples from assigned reading(s) to illustrate and support the claims that are being made.</p>	<p>1.5 pts Needs Improvement Submission does not clearly and/or completely respond to the prompt in instruction #2; more development is expected.</p>	<p>0 pts No submission No critical response was submitted.</p>	3 pts
<p>Instruction #3 Vocabulary Exercise</p>	<p>3 pts Complete Submission includes a quoted sentence, dictionary definitions, and original sentences for a vocabulary word from the assigned reading.</p>	<p>1.5 pts Needs Improvement Components of the vocabulary exercise are incomplete or missing.</p>	<p>0 pts No Submission No vocabulary words submitted.</p>	3 pts

Total Points: 9