**Ways of Responding to Readings**

**Due:** Weekly in class

**Worth:** 20% of your final grade

**Impact:** To help you think like a writer

*Reading and writing are inextricably linked. In order to become a better writer, you need to become a better reader too. This semester we will read a diverse range of texts and listen to an eclectic group of writers perform and talk about their work. Every week you will respond to the text or the work/performance of the writer and hand them in during class.*

**There is no limit to the ways you can respond to the readings.**

Here is a list of possibilities to get started. Try a variety. Experiment with different approaches. Push yourself. Shake things up. The goal is to think like a writer in the way that you respond. Your work will be evaluated based on how well your responses demonstrate your engagement with the writing.

**Respond critically to the text:**

* Discuss the strategies the writer uses to produce the work. What aspect seems to be the most important in the work and how is it operating? Consider the following aspects:
	+ - Innovative writing style
		- Use of the space of the page
		- Language usage
		- Character development
		- Narrative
		- Setting
		- Performance
		- Dialogue

**Respond creatively to the text:**

* Try writing a short passage in the style of the writer using a similar form or content using the title, “After….” and fill in the name of the writer as attribution
* Take a quote from the text, put it at the top of the page with attribution, then write your own poem or story motivated in any way by that quote.
* Use or adapt one of the weekly writing experiments as a way to respond to the text.
* Record yourself (or others) reading an excerpt from the text.
* Annotate the text using: <https://hypothes.is/> or any other form of annotation you choose. Point out elements you think are particularly well (or not well) written and say why you think so.