Student Questionnaire

Instructions: Please answer all the questions by writing in the space provided.

1. Name: ________________________________________________

2. Father's name & Occupation: _______________________________

3. Mother's name & Occupation: ______________________________

4. Hobby: ________________________________________________

5. Do you like reading English books? : _______________________

6. State the types of books that you like to read: ________________

7. Did you find the literary texts which you have read in your literature class enjoyable? : ________________________________

8. Why are they enjoyable/not enjoyable? : ____________________

9. Name one short story or poem that you found interesting: ________________

10. Do you keep a diary?: ______________________________________

11. Have you heard of journal writing?: __________________________

12. Briefly describe what you think journal writing is all about: ________________________________

______________________________
______________________________
APPENDIX B

Journal Writing

Name: ____________________________

Read the short story *The Sound Machine*. What were your feelings about the story?
GUIDED QUESTIONS FOR JOURNAL WRITING

Read the text recommended. The questions below are meant as a guide in writing the response to the text that you have read. They have been divided into 4 sections. You are required to choose at least one question from each section when writing your journal. Please attempt all 4 sections.
Remember, there is no limit to the length of your journal.
You are free to express your views, ideas, thoughts, and feelings pertaining to your reading of the text. You are free to write about the things that the questions have not asked.
Remember, this journal is to know how you feel about your reading, the text and your understanding of it.

What do you feel?
- Is the text interesting? Why?
- Does any part of this text make you feel scared, annoyed, sad, frustrated, happy or horrified? Which part and why?
- How do you feel towards certain characters? Who is your favourite character? Why?

What do you notice?
- Do you notice the significance in the title of the text?
- Why did the author begin or end the story/poem this way? Give reasons.
- Do you agree with how the writer sees the world? In what ways?

What do you question?
- Do you find yourself saying "Yes, I agree" or "That's unbelievable!". Explain where and why.
- Do you question any of the decisions that a character has made?
- Do you wonder what a certain paragraph/stanza in the text might mean?

What do you relate to?
- Is the message in the story/poem relevant to you? Why do you say so?
- Have you learnt anything important from this text?
- Does anything in this story/poem remind you of something from your own experience, or a movie, a TV programme, a song or another text that you have read? Talk about that.

ENJOY YOUR JOURNAL WRITING!
APPENDIX D

INTERVIEW SCHEDULE

1. Do you enjoy the literature lessons? Why do you enjoy or not enjoy these lessons?

2. Do you like the literary texts chosen for the journal writing activity?

3. Is this the first time that you are attempting journal writing in your literature classroom?

4. How did you find this activity?

5. What did you think your teacher wanted you to do when she first asked you to respond to the literary texts?

6. How did you find the first two journal writing activity (without guide)?

7. Did you feel more confident in writing down your responses in the second part when there were guided questions? Why?

8. Did the questions help you reflect more about the text and the issues before writing down your response?

9. Were the questions easy to understand? If no, state the questions/sections that you found difficult to attempt.

10. Do you find that you can respond better with the guided questions?

11. Did you find that your understanding of the text improved after this journal writing activity? If yes, how?

12. What is your opinion on the use of journal writing as an activity in the literature classroom?

13. Do you think journal writing would be a good activity in helping students' develop their responses to the literary texts? Why do you say so?
14. Has journal writing helped you understand the issues and concerns depicted in the text? Why?

15. Are you able to relate better to the characters, events and issues after writing down your responses?

16. Are you more confident now in writing down your responses to a text compared to before?

17. Do you have any suggestions on improving the journal writing activity?

18. Which do you prefer, journal writing with or without guide?
DEVELOPMENTAL MODEL OF A READER-RESPONSE APPROACH TO TEACHING LITERATURE

Level 1: Literal Understanding
Readers give summaries of the events of the text. Understanding of the text is at a very superficial level. They are merely narrating the information in the text.

Level 2: Empathy
Readers are involved with the text. They state their preferences, likes and dislikes based on the texts, characters and events. They have imaginative sympathy with one of the characters in the text and, and this sympathy can range from reacting with the character to imagining how the character feels.

Level 3: Connections
From the readings, the readers make connections between the characters and their lives, and from this, they learn about their own lives. They are also able to apply other reading or media to the text.

Level 4: Reflection
The readers reflect on the significance of events and behaviours in the texts. Their reflection leads to generalizations and evaluations of the characters and theme of the texts.

Level 5: Evaluation And Recognition Of Fiction
Readers view the texts as construct. They evaluate forms of narration and social and cultural values of the implied author. They also evaluate the "goodness" of the world itself.

Note: This model is adapted from Thomson, 1987
**SOUND MACHINE**

"The sound machine", the title of the story itself, unfortunately did not even seem interesting to me when I read it for the first time. Indeed, the story lived up to its title—a uninteresting reading material and a waste of time and to other stories such as "The Necklace" and "Looking for a Rain God", this story lacked drama, story and portrayal of the evil and foolish side of man. Fortunately, it had a sad ending which appealed to me because I did enjoy it. The main character, Klawser, was unable to prove that his invention works to his doctor. Whether or not he did have feelings, that I will never know but that question is the only matter from the story that really hit me behind which I found a little interesting. However, after reviewing this story a few times only did I seem more pleased by it. The way that Klawser's neighbour, Mrs. Saunders reacted towards Klawser's weird behavior portrays the law and norm of the society today that easily rules out a person as being in need of professional medical or psychological help. Nonetheless, it was only after reviewing it a couple times more did I find it interesting therefore, all small form on my first point of view that this story is uninteresting and not worth reading. 
I often have to make hard decisions, especially when it comes to deciding which clothes to buy or which place to eat, and even what night things to tell my friends and what not to. Even at this moment, I can't seem to decide. I feel a certain connection with the first paragraph in the poem, "The Road Not Taken." Sometimes I can't help but wonder what if I had done something in a different way, taken the other road. Would things have been different? Did I make the right decision? How much would it affect my life? Would my life be better if I had taken the other road? I just wish that we could know the consequences of the decisions and actions we make, so that we'd be able to make the right decision for the good of everyone. But then again, if we were never to make any mistakes, how can we ever learn from our mistakes? Confusing, right? I know, even at times I don't really understand what I'm saying. Well, if we did know everything that was going to happen, then, wouldn't we want to? 
After reading the short story entitled "The Sound Machine" by Roald Dahl, I felt very frustrated and annoyed with the ending because the main character, Klauser, was finally able to prove that his invention works but unfortunately, the tree branch fell onto the machine and broke it into pieces before the doctor, Doctor Scott, could hear anything. If the machine had not broken, perhaps the world today could hear all the amazing things which are remarkable to the human ear. However, it was quite predictable that in the end, the people of the world would be unable to know or use Klauser's invention because of the way of flow of the story which shows the reaction of Mrs. Saunders towards Klauser and his machine. To me, Mrs. Saunders portrays the outlook of the people of today. Afraid to know and approach the unknown or different people, all hide up in their little box of thinking and always trying to be in the norm. This kind of attitude irritates me! People shine out from the society because of their difference, be it physically or the way they act. Personally, I think that everyone should be different, unique and that is how God intended the world to be—different characteristics, lifestyles, and made in the image of God. You should never judge a person by his looks because looks can be deceiving, and most important things always look good on the outside, just like how tempting things are appealing to the eyes of man. Everyone should have a chance to show their true colours and not be judged by a first glimpse that is what I truly believe. We should not distant ourselves from people who are different or unique but should try to understand them, get into their skin, and help them blend in. That is why I disagree with Mrs. Saunders' actions. She thought of making a dash into her house and tried to keep away from Klauser because she thought of him as a mad or weird man. Why do people always try to run or hide from their fears and not face them? Why do they always put down those who are unique in their own ways? This reminds me of the movie Edward Scissorhands. A man who had no hand but scissors instead. Dispised and shut out from the society, ridiculed, and left alone with no one to share his problems with. All these lead to a tragic ending—his death by the townspeople. So, in conclusion, this story is just plain annoying and gives me a headache!
The poem "The Road Not Taken" appeals very much to me because it tells of the choices which people have made everyday, be it big or small choices. I believe that these choices are the ones which eventually lead us to a path predestined for us by a force far greater than ourselves. Although sometimes we may look back at the ones made and regret but I believe that we should never regret the decisions made instead we should learn from the mistakes we have made but still learning from those mistakes. There is always another day for us to take the other path which we had not chosen earlier. As the saying goes, "If it comes at sixes and sevens, therefore we should never live in the shadow of regret, nor should we be hestitant to make a decision and stick to it, being firm and not be the "I don't know" or "I can't choose" kind of person above the decision of the persona to choose a path and live by it. These are a few people unfortunately, who are fickle-minded and cannot seem to decide on what they want or what they need. Often it is these people who come out on the good things of life, which in fact also include making mistakes which we can later... what about life is about the good and bad, the 'yin' and 'yang', a balance that keeps the circle of life as it should be. Indeed, it takes courage and faith to make a choice, hoping that it will be for the better. In the poem persona was at first caught in between two appealing choices but in the end chose one. This points out the importance of making a choice, being firm and not as fickle as a pickle. This poem is a constant reminder at the back of my mind to decide on what I want each time I go out to eat. Often I ask others to decide for me because I am not good at making choices but now I always tell myself - at least most of the time - to make a choice by myself because it is one of the many wonderful rights given to us as humans and it is the choices we make which will affect not the one's close ones but also other people. I will be the one who will be taking the lead and it is my choice and hopefully, others will too.
APPENDIX G
RESPONSE WITHOUT GUIDE OF HIGH PROFICIENCY STUDENT - SAVITHA

In my opinion, this story is a story which contains some messages that can make people ponder even if they are busy creating new machines and technologies using technology. We often forget that we are responsible for the world that is around us. In this story, the writer used the same technology to teach us a good lesson.

All of you see, every living thing has its rights to live, but we humans just ignore it because we want to kill them. For example, we often chop down trees. In this story, readers get to know that each time we chop down a tree, it endures pain. Where most of us think it is free of anything, it makes us wonder if it wise to hurt trees so much.

On the other hand, why is it so difficult for people to accept or believe someone who is limited something? They always need proof. If a person fails to prove his theory, he may start calling him insane, or crazy, high high high. I think Ruminer in this story need to be given more time to prove his theory. They should not classify as crazy just because he is to prove his theory for the first time.
Read the poem ‘The Road Not Taken’. What were your feelings about the poem?

This poem really made me think of the choices that I have to make in my life and the choices that I will have to make in future. Personally, I think that everyone have to make important decisions in their lives where the decision they will make will somehow affect them for the rest of their lives. This is especially when we have to make a choice between two alternatives which was is equally good. This poem tells me that decision making is not as easy as we think. This is because every decision that one make will either make him regret or happy and also determine who, where and where one is. Basically, this poem represents the pros and cons of the decision one has to make at a certain time of his life which will also determine the experiences that he will face during his life time. A decision which has no way back.
RESPONSE WITH GUIDED QUESTIONS OF HIGH PROFICIENCY
STUDENT - SAVITHA

I personally think that this is an interesting text. This is because the way the author ended this story is really unexpected. As a reader, I expect this story to end with Klausner's
victory, but it turns out to be the other way round. I think not all stories end like this.
That's one part of the story that makes me feel annoyed. That is the part when Mrs. Saunders
was afraid of Klausner and classify him as a crazy man. When what he actually did is
just prove his hypotheses about the sound machine. He claimed what annoyed me was
that she did not put any effort to listen to him when he said that her noise, because in
pain, everyone she uses them.

This text has given me a better understanding of myself and others. After reading this
story, I realized that not everyone thinks the same. It made me understand that each
tick of us and every one of us has a different perception of life. It is the particular way we look at life
in a whole different way. There is no point of arguing about it. All we need to do
is understand others. If that is impossible, then we must just respect their opinions.
and not classify them as crazy. Just because one is different does not mean he is
strange or weird.

In this text, Mrs. K. Saunders' decision to conclude that Klausner is really
questionable. When I read this part, my first expression was "How can she do that?"
and "This doesn't make sense". Well, clearly, you can't just think that a person
is crazy just because they think of something you don't understand. Maybe, if
Mrs. Saunders were open-minded, she would not conclude that if Klausner is
crazy after all.

I still remember few years back when I had to cut a hibiscus into half
during an experiment in my science class. I found it difficult to cut the flower
because I keep feeling that I am hurting and killing the flower. Although, I don't
hear it. Graham like Klausner did in the story. I still had this strange feeling. Of
course when I told my friends about it, they thought that I am silly and
talking nonsense. But I still believe what I felt then.
I found the text "The Read Not Talk" is rather interesting. This is because the poet beautifully described a person who is in dilemma. This person had to choose between two equally good and tempting alternatives. What the person went through is something that we face everyday. This poem is mainly interesting because anyone who reads this poem would want to know more about the person’s situation and its effects and also why it may lead the person.

I think the poet started this poem by saying it because he wants to attract readers. He leaves readers in suspense and make them want to read more. It is obvious that this poem is trying to make his readers curious. Curious on which the option did the person chose. Was it the right choice and so on. I think this is a faulted try by the poet to get the readers attached to this poem.

This text has made me understand myself on better. It made me realize that making choices is not all that easy. It is about considering and taking up a big risk in it. It made me understand that making deep decisions is like someone gambling about having any and he has nothing to lose. It also made me understand that no matter which path we choose, what will happen is in our hands. Moreover, we can have millions of reasons for him to choose an option but what is important is whether he has made his choice or based on what he believed is important, that is being himself.

When I read this poem, I found myself saying "Yes, I agree." to my lines. For example, in the third stanza, whenever we have to choose one out of two we often say that someday, we will pick the other one out. But, when we say this, I know that it is impossible because there is no turning back once a decision is made. In the fourth stanza, it is said that who we are today is based on the things that we decide in the past. I strongly agree with this. This is because if we allow our heart and make a good decision, today, we will be able to seek ourselves we ourselves in the future.

The message in this poem is relevant to me. This is because in my life, I have come across similar situations where I have to make a decision. And I always have two equally good options. I just realized that no matter what is my decision, if I follow my heart and just be myself, I will never regret over the decision that I made, will make.
APPENDIX H
RESPONSE WITHOUT GUIDE OF HIGH PROFICIENCY STUDENT - ANN

Sound Machine.

Main.

The character in this story, Klausner, is really a depiction of people whom the
regard as weird or somewhat insane. Unknown to us, these may have probably
in the way scientists behave when they were working on their inventions, very
rude and analytical, at times spending hours over fine-tuning, improving and testing
inventions. This is how the light bulb, the phone and the automobiles were birth. The
prize goes on to show how that these objects brought change to our lives, for the better.
Is it possible that your imagine the world without these?

As I was saying, these so-called 'weird' people play an important role in
society. Their innovation and persistence is in enduring to the end in order that their
work became reality made a mark in history. Take for example, Thomas A. Edison.
He invented the light bulb tried 1000 times until he finally succeeded. Personally,
I admire the determination he had.

In reference to Klausner, who created a machine that could pick up too high
and vibrations for the human ear and convert them to a scale of audible tones.
His friend, Dr. Scott and Mrs. Saunders were doubtful of his crazy ideas and muses
his peculiar ways. Nevertheless, Klausner was certain of what he was doing and
went ahead to give proof of that his machine actually worked, though at times
did not succeed and was scoffed at by those who thought that he was out of
his mind.

Here, team that sometimes, we may have a dream or an ambition we believe
very in, yet there are people who doubt, criticize or discourage us. Thus, making
to feel otherwise and question our ability to achieve our goal. It is at these times
that we have to be steadfast and sure of what we believe in. If you know deep down
in you, that it is your aim and desire to see it accomplished, there should not
any hindrances or rather you should not allow these disappointments or failures
dampen your spirits or cause you to give up easily as the saying goes. "Where
will, there's a way." Remember that a winner never quits and a quitter never wins.
Read the poem 'The Road Not Taken'. What were your feelings about the poem?

I could identify with the undecisiveness of the poet when he had to choose between two alternatives. Whichever decisions he made would affect his future differently. I have also been at crossroads in my life when it seems difficult to make a choice especially when I cannot see into the future. Somehow or rather, there will be a feeling of regret that I could not try both the options. The process of decision making is not easy because I have to ponder, reflect and not be hasty to weigh the consequences of my decision today.

I also realize that will be instances when I may have to choose between two options that are equally attractive and inviting. This will be a time when I have to make my decisions wisely, because once I make a choice, there will be no turning back. This is due to the fact that one experience would lead on to another, yet another. In making such decisions, much risk and challenges are involved. All the more, when very people embark on that journey. Here is when I learn to be original and not follow the herd.

Choices I make can make or break me significantly in the future. Who I will be tomorrow is a result of my decision today. Therefore, I feel that I have to be wise in making decisions and when necessary seek the counsel of older people who have had such experiences so that I can learn from them and not repeat or avoid making the mistakes they may have made. Later in life, I will have to accept the consequences of my choice and not dwell on the past.
The Sound Machine

In this story, the message of judging others who are different from us strikes a chord in me. Somehow at times, I find it hard to accept those who seem abnormal to me. Then again, I ask myself, 'What if I was different from others? How would others perceive me? How would I feel?' Some people say honesty is good for the soul.

As I ponder upon these questions, it becomes more real to me that each person is wired differently, hence teaching us to be tolerant, gracious and patient towards one another. However, not all of us react in the manner we should and in the process hurt those people who are 'abnormal'. Here, I learn that I need to be more patient, caring and gracious towards people like Klausner and accept them for who they are, for each person is unique and special in their own way.

I find this text pretty interesting, mainly because its storyline is somewhat different. Most stories that I read are predictable and usually deals with things that are the norm and close to us. On the contrary, this story touches on something inventive that is quite innovative and creative, something that people do not often think about. Here you see a man, Klausner dubbed to be a man ahead of his time. At the same time, you observe the Dr Scott and Mrs. Saunders response and feelings towards the main character.

The peculiar events that happen, like when Mrs. Saunders was cutting the roses, Klausner could hear shrieks. Also, when Klausner cut the tree and asked Dr. Scott to apply iodine on it. Call it illogical, bizarre, insane or weird, this story is certainly unique and Roald Dahl has added colour to the text.
used all his imaginative skills to bring out life, and thereby
this short story.

To me, I wonder why Klausner made the decision to cut the
tree and then paint iodine on it. I think he was contradicting
himself. I mean, why hurt the tree and then seek to heal or
relieve the pain he inflicted on it. Why hurt it in the first
place?
Robert Frost has certainly embodied the choices we face in life in plain language, in a graceful manner but yet portraying the essence of decision-making in a captivating way. None of us would deny the fact that at some point of our life, we have been presented with two equally attractive alternatives and when we do, what actions do we then decide to take? Here in this poem, the writer depicts the journey one goes through being those moments in a not-flowery style.

The poet was at crossroads in his life. Line 2, 'And sorry I could not travel both', implies that he was fully aware that he had to make a choice between both the roads. Of course, he wanted to see where each choice would bring him to, as said in these lines, 'And looked down one as far as I could'.

Following that, he chose the second option because it looked more inviting compared to the other. And having perhaps the better claim and 'Because it was grassy and unkept wear' show that the poet has made his decision because it appeared that not people would have not normally chosen that path making it more interesting.

Inevitably, the decision was not easy to make. However, he knew that once he made a choice, there would be no turning back. He thought he would explore the lost road another time as captured in 'Oh, I kept the first for another day!' This was because he knew for sure that one experience would lead on to another as seen in lines, 'Yet knowing how way leads on to way, I doubted if I should ever come back.'

Now, as he looked back, he somewhat regrets not being able to try both the options and realises that he never will. He understands that he has made a choice few people would - 'I took the one less traveled by' and his choice has changed him to be the person he eventually turned out to be.

I find myself agreeing with the lines 'Oh, I kept the first for another day!' it knowing how way leads on the way, I doubted if I should ever come back. Why reason being, it can be difficult to make a choice between two equally good options because we cannot see what lies ahead. We can hope for the best and base wisely.

As humans, there is bound to be a sense of regret not being able to try out both the options. We cannot help but wonder what it would have been if we had chosen the other option instead. Here I learn that during these times, I have to make the best decision after making wise judgements and seeking the counsel of.
Also, to make decisions rationally and instead of compulsion.

I am reminded of an episode of series 'The Amazing Race 5', which I saw at too long ago. In this section where they have to do a detour, the nine teams are presented with two options: paragliding and mountain-biking. Both options had their pros and cons. If they paraglided, they had to run down a sloppy hill and take-off from there, the safety was assured because each person was assisted by a trained paraglider. On the other hand, if you were afraid of heights, you would rather not because you had to paraglide for some 700 metres in air. Whereas the mountain-biking would be a more familiar vehicle to use and manoeuvre with. However, the terrain was rough, proving it to be a challenging task as well. In this way, all the teams chose to paraglide and many of them overcame their fear of heights and some testified that it was the most amazing thing they had done in their lives. Thus, marking a milestone in each of their lives.
Read the short story "The Sound Machine". What were your feelings about the story?

First impression when I read the short story, and I found it interesting.

Klausner, a nerk and confident boy. He doesn't care what people criticize him, he confident what and enjoy in everything he does. Eventhough people said he crazy, but he knows what the sound machine he invented is a new thing and never be introduced by other people.

I would like to follow Klausner's strong will, the and never give up. If I be a good person is to learn from the past and never give up to try the best. I think Klausner will take a positive characteristic and invent new thing for a better life in years to come.
In my opinion, this poem is interesting because it teaches me how to make a decision in my life. The language, the poet used, is neat to follow. One day, I got a problem to choose between going for a Ph.D. or pursue my high school. It's a hard decision to choose it wisely. I took a lot of time to choose. Finally, I had made my decision to choose the Ph.D. I think it's the best decision that I've made. According to the poem, I cannot regret or come back to choose major. Once I choose, I cannot turn back because it leads to my future. I hope that going for Ph.D. will lead to a bright future. Thanks to poet, Robert Frost, because give a lot of advice in a one short and meaningful poem.
The Sound Machine

1. What do you feel?
   - How do you feel about the text? Is the text interesting? Why?
     
     First, when I read the text, I feel very excited to know more about the story and how this story ends. There are interesting storylines, and I think the author, Roald Dahl, is a good writer. The text is engaging, and I look forward to reading more about the story.

   - Why do you think the author wrote the story in this way? Give reasons.
     
     I think the author Roald Dahl begins the story with Klauser's character, who is preparing the machines. It shows Klauser's hardworking and strong will, even though he is sick. The idea of believing that his machines can operate well and useful and the way the writer ends the story like that because he doesn't want the sound machines to exist. If the sound machines still exist, it will be difficult for humans to live with nature environments. Humans will be more sympathetic to nature.

2. What do you notice?
   - Why did the author begin or end the story/poem this way? Give reasons.
     
     I think the author Roald Dahl begins the story with Klauser's character, who is preparing the machines. It shows Klauser's hardworking and strong will, even though he is sick. The idea of believing that his machines can operate well and useful and the way the writer ends the story like that because he doesn't want the sound machines to exist. If the sound machines still exist, it will be difficult for humans to live with nature environments. Humans will be more sympathetic to nature.

3. What do you question?
   - Do you question any of the decisions that a character has made?
     
     I do not like the doctor character. Because he judges Klauser as a mad genius. The doctor supposed to be a supportive person and give opinion Klauser to built the sound machines because he has a strong relationship with Klauser. So Klauser can rely on him. If people do not believe that the sound machines work well.

4. What do you relate to?
   - Is the message in the story/poem relevant to you? Why do you say so?
     
     I think I can accept the message in the story because it shows that Klauser is not an ordinary boy. Klauser should have a good characteristic like imaginative and hardworking. Klauser has the same characteristic like other famous inventor like Alexander Graham Bell, the Wright brothers that do something that never been think by other people. I also want to be like Klauser and others inventors to make people life easier. And don't simply judging people by his appearance. Maybe the people we critic are more genius or better than us.
Guided Questions for Journal Writing

What do you feel?

does any part of this text make you feel scared, annoyed, sad, frustrated, happy or horrified? Which part and why?

I like the part when the writer’s choosing the best road. I feel sad because the writer’s cannot choose both of the roads. He choose the good road because he choose the other road things bad can happen.

What do you notice?

What is the message in the text?

I suppose says that this text have moral values or message that can teach people choose the best way for a better life. PMR someone choose badly to take notice of the bad and good things of something wisely. Remember, the road that we choose is for our future.

What do you question?

Do you find yourself saying “Yes, I agree” or “That’s unbelievable.” Explain where and why.

I find that I would rather says “Yes, I agree.” Back to the story/poem “Would Not Taken”, I would choose the same road as that writer’s like the writer’s choice. Because the road not been used by people.

What do you relate to?

Does anything in this story/poem text that you have read? Talk about that.

Yes, this poem remember me about PMR, SMATTDI. Basic from my cousin experience, I found that, it is difficult to adapt to MRSM when we have many years stayed with my parents. But studied in MRSM is more good because I don’t have disturbance circumstances. Finally, I then take many time to choose the best for future. I finally choose continued to SMATTDI and choose the best for future. I hope I can pass like my other did.
The Sound Machine

I like this story because it is an unique story. I was interested of the main character. I think Klausner (the main character) was a mysterious person. He had made an amazing machine that could hear a plants sound sometimes. I always dreamed to hear the sounds of sound's nature. When a bad person like Klausner can make the machine to heard the sounds feel that one day we will not be surprise when we can heard of the nature's sounds. Back to the main character, Klausner was a curious person in unusual character being. Poor him, because oh that people do not trust him. Although however, like teacher says, said, if every nature had talk and we can heard that, especially for plants, now people can life? I believe that the sound machine is real. Why, the nature's voice do not exist unless the sound machine, but it did not exist until because it was around us, we are hard have their good and love to each other.
Journal Writing

Read the poem 'The Road Not Taken'

What were your feelings about the poem?

I think I like this poem because this poem is quite interesting from this poem, it reminds me that whatever you want to do first you should think of the positive and also the negative way before you choose. It is reasonable because if I just choose the way without research it, most probably I have to take a risk, I don't have any prepared for it. It's very important to me to balance of the positive and negative thing happens so I can ready for it.
RESPONSE WITH GUIDED QUESTIONS OF LOW PROFICIENCY

STUDENT - MIRA

I had read a short story of the sound machine. And I find that the story is it is not interesting, because at the end of the story, make me feel disappointed. I feel that the characters play their role in what reality life we are close. For example, Mrs. Saavedra who is person was a judge judgment people who she thing are unnatural, could without know the person very close.

I find myself saying, "That's unbelievable when a part of in this story like the sound machine that had made by Kosiner had destroyed by root a part of tree branch where had doctor who treat Kosiner can't bear sound from the sound machine and disappointed thing is when Kosiner had call as a crazy person because of the case. Poor him. Everybody cannot judge people without we knew himself themselves.

The message in this story are relevant to me at and also as human being special person should had their part in this world to live. They had something good important to can to create something make human more easy in life.

I have an example experience about a special person who is my cousin. Literally, she is normal. But she is still act like a children 5 years old. She is 4 now is 27 years old. When I was a child, I really scared to get to close with her.

She is not bad girl a normal persona she just like to talk a lot and always told me about her dream. That she wants to marry married and wear a yellow pink brown glasses wedding. I always laughing and laughed and trusted at her, but she never care about that. She is also love singing. It unbelievable, she has a good voice. I love to hear her singing. She always singing. She sings a songs that we know with the lyrics she made by herself. She always do homework like clean her house hang a cloth. She also can cook. Only a simple meal.

I don't care, she is special and had a disability like normal people has. I proud of her. And when I realize that the moral of this story, I swear to myself to do not tease her anymore.
Journal Writing (The road not taken)

I had read a poem of the road not taken and I find that this poem is interesting. Because this poem for me is just like an advice or advice, in this text. A part of this poem had given a choice to choose for the traveler make me feel scared because the traveler as a me had his to choose a right choice before continue his journey, and with the choice made you are going through your future are going right or wrong.

The message in this text tell us, to be careful and always think and compare a positive and negative situation before you choose to do something. We need to do that, to help us to not get trouble in our chosen. This message in the text influenced my belief.

I find myself say that unbelievable is in my school doing I have to choose what class should I go in Form 4, because I had dream to study in science class, but till now I just get B’s for my important subject like Math and Science, but I know that I am doing my best when I trust myself if I dare to choose that class, I should dare to take a risk.

The message in this poem is relevant to me and reminds me sometimes our chosen is the best for our life but we need to be confident to our self that we can do it because the best thing come not easy we need to be done to take a risk.
From the short story "The Sound Machine" by Roald Dahl, I felt that the story interesting because the main character, Klausner, is a wonderful scientist that can create a sound machine that could hear the other music.

But sadly, Klausner had no one to gain trust about his machine. Besides that, people think that he is crazy inventing such a thing that is unbelievable.

In conclusion, I would respect Klausner as he is the only person who does not give up easily and he is a responsible person.
Journal Writing
Read the poem 'The Road Not Taken'. What were your feelings about the poem.

The poem 'The Road Not Taken' by Robert Frost
I like it because it leaves me a deep memory throughout my life.
After reading the poem, I felt more anxiety as I would have to make decisions like the poet. Making good choices always make me feel anxious and fear from anything what kind of road that I have chose.
Meanwhile, I taught by another day, I would be able to try the other road. But, there is no turning back as one road will lead to the other road.
In conclusion, my feelings towards this poem is about fear and be aware of choosing which road I will undergo for. If not, I would regret for taking the wrong road.
From the story 'The Sound Machine' by Roald Dahl, I felt the text interesting because we learn can always learn new things about it. Therefore, we should not take the world around us for granted.

The part from the text 'The Sound Machine' makes me feel scared and horrified when Klausner told Dr. Scott to heal the tree by putting the iodine. At that time, Klausner was holding an axe. Dr. Scott followed his instruction.

Among the characters in the text, I would prefer Klausner because he has the curiosity to know about living things that can be heard. Besides that, he is also an imaginative person.

The author began the story this way because he wanted to create suspense for the readers and also to get for them too.

The message in the text that can be found is we must not judge other people when they are different from ourselves and it does not mean that they are abnormal when others behave in a way that is not unusual for us. Therefore, they does not mean that they are insane while we are sane.

The text above has influence me as it is all right to be different from others. However, it is not correct to be too different from what is acceptable within a culture. The text also teaches me not to judge people when they are different from us. Moreover, we must also respect the environment.

Yes I agree because the text is not only interesting but also suspense.
JOURNAL WRITING

From poem 'The Road Not Taken' by Robert Frost.

I felt the text interesting. People have to choose their path carefully.

The message can be found in the poem is we must plan our time properly as time and tide waits for no man. Moreover, we must choose the right path in order to get a better future.

Through the message from the poem, it has influenced my beliefs that has given me a better understanding as it applies to daily life routine. Therefore, it has influenced me. I agree with.

In conclusion, I agree to poem because the poem has a property to have people make their choices and decisions to decide for their future.
APPENDIX L

TRANSCRIPT OF INTERVIEW WITH HIGH PROFICIENCY STUDENT

ANN

Researcher (R) Ann (A)

R: Do you enjoy the literature lessons?
A: Yes, very much
R: What do you enjoy about the lessons?
A: Well, it adds variety to the English lessons. It introduces me to different cultures and beliefs, opening me to new perspectives in life.
R: Do you like the literary texts chosen for the journal writing activity?
A: Yes, my favourite is The Road Not Taken.
R: Is this the first time that you are attempting journal writing in your literature classroom?
A: Yes. I felt lost at first as this task was something unfamiliar to me.
R: So did you find it very difficult?
A: ...(smiles) yes, but it was also an enriching experience.
R: How so?
A: Well, it helped me in self-reflection. I could relate the issues discussed to my own life.
R: What did you think I wanted you to do when I asked you to respond to the texts?
A: Well, I thought you wanted me to write down my thoughts and feelings about the texts.
R: How did you find the first two journal writing activity where you had no guide?
A: It was rather challenging as there was such a broad scope that I could write about. I had my doubts too as I was not sure where I was heading in writing the journals without guide.
R: Do you feel that you would be able to write better responses if there were questions to guide you?
A: Definitely. The questions help me evaluate and reflect on the meaning of the texts. This allows me to engage with the texts. I was then able to relate to my own experiences which helped me discover new things about the world around me.

R: Can you give me an example?

A: Well, in *The Sound Machine*, Klausner is a character who is different from everybody. Everyday in our lives we meet people who are different from us whether physically or mentally.

R: Did you feel more confident in the activity when there were guided questions?

A: Yes, because I was quite certain of what was required of me in responding to the texts.

R: Did the questions help you reflect more about the text and the issues before writing down your responses?

A: Certainly. I began to see the texts not just at the surface level. Instead the questions probed me to look at the texts in different aspects. It made me analyse a person's actions. I started wondering what would I do in their shoes. I needed to think critically.

R: Were the questions easy to understand?

A: Yes, I had no problem with all the four sections.

R: Do you find that you can respond better with the guided questions?

A: Definitely.

R: So, are you able to understand the text better after writing down your responses in your journals?

A: Yes, by putting my thoughts and opinions into words I am more familiar with the texts as I had to refer time and again to the texts when I was writing in the journals. It helped improve my memory of the texts.

R: What is your opinion on the use of journal writing as an activity in the literature classroom?

A: I think it would be beneficial to the students as they have a chance to analyse the text better and see the texts in different perspectives. It will also train them to write.

R: What do you mean by training them to write?
A: Well, most often we only write essays in class. This writing work is different. You are free to express yourself about the texts.

R: Do you think journal writing would be a good activity in helping students' develop their response to literary texts?

A: Yes as the questions would help them understand the texts better. It would encourage them to think. By having the questions as a guideline, it'll show them what to focus on.

R: Has this activity helped you understand the issues and concerns depicted in the texts?

A: Yes.

R: So, now you are able to relate better to the issues, characters and events in the texts?

A: Yes, definitely better. For example, morally I do not agree with Mrs. Saunders reaction to Klausner but I can understand why she is scared of him.

R: Do you think writing down responses is a good way to increase understanding of the issues and concerns in the texts?

A: Yes, putting down thoughts into words would definitely help us to understand the texts better. It helped me reflect on what I had written.

R: Are you more confident now in writing down your responses to a literary text compared to before?

A: Yes, because I know what is expected of me...what to write. I won't feel lost.

R: Tell me, which would you prefer, the activity with or without guided questions?

A: It's better with the guided questions as I know what to focus on.

R: Finally, would you recommend this activity for all students?

A: Definitely as it would be useful and helpful for students to change their perception towards the texts. It helped me understand and appreciate the text better. It is also a form of revision for the exams. I still find The Sound Machine a little dry but I can understand the message in the text and I definitely can relate better to the text.

R: Thank you Ann.
TRANSCRIPT OF INTERVIEW WITH HIGH PROFICIENCY STUDENT

ANGELINE

Researcher (R)        Angeline (N)

R : Do you enjoy the literature lessons?
N : Yes, but I don't like the fact that it is tested in the exams. That takes the joy out of the lessons.
R : Anyway, what do you enjoy about the lessons?
N : Well, the lessons are interesting because we get to interact and give our opinions.
       We get to discuss the texts compared to other subjects where the teacher does all the talking. I like the fact that our opinion does matter.
R : Do you like the literary texts chosen for the journal writing activity?
N : They're alright but my favourite is The Necklace.
R : Is this the first time that you are attempting journal writing in your literature classroom?
N : Yes.
R : So how did you find it?
N : It was okay.
R : What did you think I wanted you to do when I asked you to respond to the texts?
N : I thought you wanted me to write what I really feel about the texts.
R : Yes, I noticed that you were pretty strong in your views about the texts.
N : (laughs) What can I say... that's how I felt!
R : Anyway, how did you find the first two journal writing activity where you had no guide?
N : Well, I wasn't sure what to write mainly because I didn't know if I was doing it the right way.
R : Did you feel that you would be able to write better responses if there were questions to guide you?
N : Yes, at least I would know how or what to write. It would give me a rough idea on what I'm supposed to do.
R: So I guess you felt more confident in writing down your responses in the second part where there were guided questions?

N: Yes, definitely. It helped me plan out my writing. I mean it's easier because the writing is more focused as it's based on a guideline.

R: Did the questions help you reflect more about the text and the issues before writing down your responses?

N: I guess so. The questions helped me focus on the issues. When there were no questions, I'll just be staring at a blank sheet of paper thinking hard on what to write next. So, the questions actually stimulate your thinking.

R: Were the questions easy to understand?

N: Yes, quite easy.

R: Do you find that you can respond better with the guided questions?

N: Yes.

R: So, are you able to understand the text better after writing down your responses in your journals?

N: Yes, I think so...because by writing down my responses I can actually look back and read my thoughts. That helps me remember the texts better too.

R: What is your opinion on the use of journal writing as an activity in the literature classroom?

N: It's good as we are free to express our opinion and there's no pressure as no marks are given. I think I enjoy literature more with activities like this.

R: Do you think journal writing would be a good activity in helping students' develop their responses to literary texts?

N: Yes

R: Why do you think so?

N: Well, it gives us time to think about the text and how to relate it to our lives. The normal method is where we just read and answer questions. That's not much help as it doesn't encourage us to think. We're only worried about the correct answers for the exams.
R: Has this activity helped you understand the issues and concerns depicted in the texts?
N: Yes.
R: So, now you are able to relate better to the issues, characters and events in the texts?
N: Yes, I can understand the difficulties the poet was going through in making his decision on which road to choose. I can actually relate it to my life especially where he wanted to try the road that's less popular.
R: So do you agree that writing down responses is a good way to increase the understanding of the issues and concerns in the text?
N: Yes, it helps us evaluate ourselves. We learn more about ourselves and actually understand ourselves better.
R: Are you more confident now in writing down your responses to a literary text compared to before?
N: Definitely better as I know what to focus on. The guided questions helped a lot.
R: Would you recommend this activity for all students?
N: Sure, but it's better to start them off with the guided questions. If not they'll feel lost and not know what to do.
R: Thank you Angeline.
TRANSCRIPT OF INTERVIEW WITH HIGH PROFICIENCY STUDENT

SAVITHA

Researcher (R) Savitha (S)

R : Do you enjoy the literature lessons?
S : Yes, very much
R : What do you enjoy about the lessons?
S : Well, I enjoy them because I get to read and understand good literature. It also gives me a chance to note the way the writer uses the language and their style in conveying their thoughts. I may be able to make use of this later in my writing.
R : Do you like the literary texts chosen for the journal writing activity?
S : Yes, but I prefer the short stories.
R : Is this the first time that you are attempting journal writing in your literature classroom?
S : Yes.
R : So how did you find it?
S : Very challenging. It was enjoyable, interesting and beneficial.
R : How so?
S : Well, I learnt a lot about the literary texts because when I started writing I had to refer to my books and notes and so it was like a revision exercise for me.
R : What did you think I wanted you to do when I asked you to respond to the texts?
S : I thought you wanted me to write down my perceptions about the texts and how they influenced me emotionally.
R : How did you find the first two journal writing activity where you had no guide?
S : It was a little difficult as I was a little lost. You provided a question but it was too general and I was not really sure what kind of feelings to write. So I was not confident when I was writing my first two journals.
R : Do you feel that you would be able to write better responses if there were questions to guide you?
S : Yes, because with the guided questions, I have a clearer picture of what is required and I would know what sort of responses are expected from me. Without the
questions, I was totally blur and I did not have much to say but with the questions I knew what to write.

R: So, you felt more confident in the activity when there were guided questions?
S: Yes, with the questions I felt more sure of myself. I knew the aspects that were required. Earlier, I had fear that I may go out of point.

R: Did the questions help you reflect more about the text and the issues before writing down your responses?
S: Yes, because through the questions I got to know what to focus on when reading the texts. This helped me understand the text better. Earlier, I read the texts for the sake of reading. But with the questions, I know that now, okay, I'll have to focus on the character.

R: Can you give me an example?
S: Well, now I can understand *The Sound Machine* better. I can connect my life to the story and by connecting the story to my life, I can understand the theme better.

R: Were the questions easy to understand?
S: Yes, I could manage them.

R: Do you find that you can respond better with the guided questions?
S: Yes.

R: So, are you able to understand the text better after writing down your responses in your journals?
S: Yes.

R: Why is that?
S: Well, I had to think more about the story, the themes and other aspects before writing and when I'm not so sure, I would refer to the books. This helped me to understand better. Writing it down made it something like a test. So, I was worried that you will not get what I'm trying to say and so it is important that I make sense.

R: So, you do feel that your understanding of the texts improved after this activity?
S: Yes. I was able to connect issues in the texts with real life with the help of the guided questions. I could connect incidents in my life to the texts and this did not happen before. This helped me to broaden my view and to look at things in a different way. As I said, earlier I only read the text to remember points for the exam.
R: So, what is your opinion on the use of journal writing as an activity in the literature classroom?

S: I think it'll be really good because it'll help students improve their understanding of the texts. I'm sure they'll enjoy literature better with activities like this.

R: Do you think journal writing would be a good activity in helping students' develop their responses to literary texts?

S: Yes, by writing in their journals they will definitely understand the texts better. Understanding the texts will help them give more matured responses. But, I also feel that not all will find this task easy. If you like literature, it'll be fun but if you don't, you may not even like to write in the journals. Maybe if the students are allowed to choose their own texts they may respond better.

R: That's an interesting idea. Anyway, has this activity helped you understand the issues and concerns depicted in the texts?

S: Yes, all the other activities were for the exams. In this activity, we're trying to enjoy the texts and really get into it. So it's different.

R: So, now you are able to relate better to the issues, characters and events in the texts?

S: Yes, especially by connecting events in my life. People may think Klausner's weird but for me as I've been through a similar situation, he doesn't seem so weird after all.

R: Do you think writing down responses is a good way to increase understanding of the issues and concerns in the texts?

S: Yes, before writing down we have to read and analyse the texts a few times. So, you spend more time thinking about the issues in the texts. Putting down words in writing is not an easy task and so I analyse carefully before actually writing down.

R: Are you more confident now in writing down your responses to a literary text compared to before?

S: Yes, because the questions helped me know what to write.

R: Would you recommend this activity for all students?

S: Sure. It is a good activity for students to express their opinion about the texts. It would also help them look at the text in a more matured way.

R: Thank you Savitha.
TRANSCRIPT OF INTERVIEW WITH LOW PROFICIENCY STUDENT - ZAIFUL

Researcher (R)  Zaiful (Z)

R : Do you enjoy the literature lessons?
Z : Yes.
R : Why...what do you like about the lessons?
Z : I learn moral value and new story.
R : Do you like the literary texts chosen for the journal writing activity?
Z : I like both.
R : Is this the first time that you are attempting journal writing in your literature classroom?
Z : Yes.
R : How did you find this activity?
Z : ...(smiles) very tough, especially when there was no guide.
R : What did you think I wanted you to do when I asked you to respond to the texts?
Z : I thought I must give the synopsis and what I feel about the story.
R : How did you find the first two journal writing activity where you had no guide?
Z : Difficult. I find it difficult to construct sentences and I don't know if I'm writing the correct answer.
R : Do you feel that you would be able to write better responses if there were questions to guide you?
Z : Yes.
R : Why?
Z : Well, I can focus on the questions that they ask.
R : So, you felt more confident in the activity where there were guided questions?
Z : Yes, because I can give the best answer and I'm not so scared.
R : Did the questions help you reflect more about the text and the issues before writing down your responses?
Z : Yes, but I have to refer to the book before writing.
R : Can you give me an example?
Z : The poem was about making decisions. I can compare this to my life next year when
    I must choose Pra-U or Matriks.
R : Oh yes, I remember reading that in your journal entry. So, were the guided questions
easy to understand?
Z : O.K. because you explained to us first.
R : Which question did you find most difficult?
Z : The part "What do you question?". It is difficult to question the writer.
R : You said that you could respond better with the questions. So, are you able to under-
    stand the text better after writing down your responses in your journals?
Z : Yes, because I know the story better now.
R : Why?
Z : Because I have to look back and remember what happened before I write.
R : I noticed that you wrote longer in the guided activity? Why is that?
Z : ...(smiles sheepishly)...you said we have to answer one question from each section.
R : Do you think journal writing would be a good activity in helping students' develop
    their responses to literary texts?
Z : Yes, it is good because it makes us think and understand the text better.
R : What do you mean by think?
Z : Well, I have to think carefully about the character...why I like him.
R : Can you give me an example?
Z : ...mmm...I like Klausner because he never give up.
R : So, you feel journal writing would be a good activity in helping students develop
    their responses?
Z : Yes, it is helpful. It can make them think better and they can understand better.
R : So, now you are able to understand and relate better to the issues, characters and
    events in the texts?
Z : Yes. Because I must think critically and analyse. I cannot just write the summary of
    the story.
R : Thank you Zaiful.
TRANSCRIPT OF INTERVIEW WITH LOW PROFICIENCY STUDENT - MIRA

Researcher (R)  Mira (M)

R : Do you enjoy the literature lessons?
M : Yes.
R : What do you like about the lessons?
M : Well...it has moral values and my teacher explains in detail, so I understand.
R : Do you like the literary texts chosen for the journal writing activity?
M : Ok...but the poem is difficult.
R : Is this the first time that you are attempting journal writing in your literature classroom?
M : Yes.
R : How did you find this activity?
M : (smiles)...interesting...it train me to improve my language.
R : What did you think I wanted you to do when I asked you to respond to the texts?
M : I thought you wanted me to give my opinion about the story.
R : How did you find the first two journal writing activity where you had no guide?
M : Difficult (frowns). I was scared I'm wrong. I'm not sure what to write.
R : Do you feel that you would be able to write better responses if there were questions to guide you?
M : Yes.
R : Why?
M : Because I know what to do. The questions help because I am not confused on what you want me to write.
R : So, you're saying that you wrote more in your entry when you had the guided questions because you knew what to do?
M : Yes...also you said I have to answer one question from each section.
R : I see. If the condition had not been included, what would you have done?
A : (smiles sheepishly) I would have only answered the easy question about the character.
R: So, I guess you felt more confident when there were guided questions?
M: Yes.
R: Did the questions help you reflect more about the text and the issues before writing down your responses?
M: Yes, I had to think back about the text and what you taught in class.
R: So, were the guided questions easy to understand?
M: Okay because you explained to us first.
R: Which question did you find the most difficult?
M: (pauses)..."What do you notice?" Because I have to look back at the story.
R: Do you find that you can respond better with the guided questions?
M: Yes, because I have to go flashback to the story and look for important things like theme, moral values...
R: So you found that your understanding of the texts improved after the journal writing activity?
M: Yes.
R: What is your opinion on the use of journal writing as an activity in the literature classroom?
M: Oh, it is good (nodding her head). It trains students to think. I have to think carefully before I write.
R: Anything else?
M: ...mmm...I have to remember back things on the poem and short story, so it helps me remember what I read.
R: So, has the journal writing activity helped you understand the issues and concerns depicted in the texts.
M: Yes.
R: Are you able to relate better to the characters, events and issues in the text after writing down your response?
M: Yes.
R: Can you give me an example?
M: Well... now I understand Klausner's problem. I feel sorry for him. I didn't understand why Dr. Scott put the iodine on the tree but now I understand.
R: Do you think writing down responses is a good way to increase understanding of issues and concerns in the texts?
M: Yes.
R: Why?
M: I understand more because I have to analyse and I have to write down. When I write down and read it again, I understand better.
R: Are you more confident now in writing down your responses to a text than before?
M: Yes.
R: Tell me, what do you feel about the journal writing activity that you took part in?
M: It was hard...I prefer when there were questions to help me because I know what to write. But it's a good activity.
R: Anything else?
M: Well, I understand better...like Klausner. I can compare him to my cousin.
R: Yes, I remember you writing about her. So you can understand better because you can connect the text to your own life?
M: Yes. Klausner's different, she's different also.
R: Would you recommend this activity in your literature lesson?
M: Yes, but it's not easy. It'll be better with the questions but it is still not an easy activity. But it'll be good for the students.
R: Thank you Mira.
TRANSCRIPT OF INTERVIEW WITH LOW PROFICIENCY STUDENT - ALEX

Researcher (R)  Alex (A)

R : Do you enjoy the literature lessons?
A : Yes.
R : Why...what is it that you like about the lessons?
A : Well, it is interesting and there are moral values. I can relate it to life.
R : Do you like the literary texts chosen for the journal writing activity?
A : Yes.
R : Is this the first time that you are attempting journal writing in your literature classroom?
A : Yes.
R : How did you find this activity?
A : Tough...but interesting. I did not know what to write especially the first two times.
R : What did you think I wanted you to do when I asked you to respond to the texts?
A : I thought she wanted me to write an essay...a short summary about the texts.
R : How did you find the first two journal writing activity where you had no guide?
A : Oh...very difficult (shaking his head)...I had no idea what to write.
R : Why?
A : I can't recall the text and I don't know what you want me to write.
R : Do you feel that you would be able to write better responses if there were questions to guide you?
A : Yes.
R : Why?
A : I know to give my best answer.
R : You mean you know what to write?
A : Yes...I know what you expect, so I'm not lost.
R : So, I guess you felt more confident when there were guided questions?
A : Yes. I know what to do. I'm not so anxious.
R: Did the questions help you reflect more about the text and the issues before writing down your responses?
A: Yes, I had to open up my book again and look at all the notes. I had to see which points to use as answer for the question.
R: So, were the guided questions easy to understand?
A: O.K.
R: Which question was difficult?
A: "What do you relate to?"
R: Why?
A: I find it difficult to relate the story and poem to my life.
R: Yes, I noticed that you didn't write much in your journal entry with guided questions for the poem. Why was that?
A: Yes......(smiles)... but I find it difficult to write.
R: Even the poem which was about making choices? Haven't you come across a situation where you had to make choices?
A: Poems aren't very easy to write about... the short story was not the one that I liked best but I could write about Klausner. I like Klausner...I understand his problem.
R: Did you find that your understanding of the texts improved after the journal writing activity?
A: Yes, because I know the story better. I have to look at the book before writing.
R: What is your opinion on the use of journal writing as an activity in the literature classroom?
A: Good, but if you don't read it will be difficult.
R: What do you mean?
A: You must read the texts well before writing, if not you won't know what to write.
R: Do you think journal writing would be a good activity in helping students' develop their responses to literary texts?
A: Yes, because you gain more experience of the text.
R: You mean you'll be able to understand the issues and concerns in the text better?
A: Yes, because you need to remember the events in the texts and you have to write it down. Then you need to explain.
R: Are you able to relate better to the characters, events and issues in the text after writing down your response?
A: Well, I understand them better because I had to look through the texts again.
R: So, you feel journal writing would be a good activity in helping students develop their responses?
A: Yes
R: And you feel more confident now in giving responses?
A: ...(smiles) Ok, better than the first time.
R: Tell me, which would you prefer...journal writing with or without guide?
A: Well, the questions are important because without them I will not know what to write. They help me and I feel more confident.
R: Thank you Alex.