Independent Novel or Non-fiction

There are 2 sets of questions. Do NOT do both, please

NOVEL.

If you are reading a novel, please choose 3 of the following questions, and answer each in 3 to 5 sentences. If you are reading non-fiction (real life), do the questions below.

1. What has happened before the novel began? As you read the book, clearly something important in the past is influencing events now in the story? What do you think happened, and how is it influencing the plot or characters?

2. What is the setting of the novel? Why is this setting important or could the novel be happening anywhere?

3. What is the first problem faced by the main character? When the protagonist is faced with this problem, how does he or she react, and what options are there?

4. How does the author get you to read further or hold on to your interest? What kinds of things do you need to have in a novel to keep your interest? Does the author have any tricks that keep you focussed?

5. What plot twists or unexpected events happen as the novel goes on? What is the effect of the twist on the protagonist? How does this twist affect the plot or characters in the novel?

6. Is there a message or main theme emerging in the book? How is it shown? Is it revealed through effects on characters or choices they make?

7. What is a main conflict in the novel? Who is facing it? How relevant is the conflict to real life?

8. Describe any new characters that are introduced? What is their purpose? You can also talk about lesser characters here. What is their effect on the protagonist or the plot?

NON-FICTION

If you are reading non-fiction (real life), please choose 3 of the following questions, and answer each in 3 to 5 sentences. If you are reading a novel, do NOT do these questions.

1. Choose one section in the book and describe your initial reactions to it? What is your opinion on what you are reading? What did you like or dislike about this section of the book? What was meaningful? \*You can choose this question twice; that is, choose a second section of the book and comment.

2. Choose one section of the book that makes you reflect on your own life. Describe the section of the book. How does it make you think about your own life? How does it make you think you would face something again, if you had the chance?

3. Are there any diagrams, pictures, illustrations in this section of the book? If so, what did the visuals teach you in this section? How is the author using visuals to further his or her arguments or point-of-view?

4. Non-fiction can be organized very differently than fiction. How is the information organized in this section by the author? How effective is the organizational pattern of the writing? Would you use this pattern if you were writing something big like this?

5. What did you know about this topic before you began reading? How is this text enhancing, changing, or furthering your understanding of this topic?

6. Sometimes, when we choose a non-fiction text about a person or something we really like, we have mixed responses to what we read. Does the book, the person, or the topic described in it measure up to your expectations? How was this text what you were hoping, or how is this text surprising or disappointing?

7. What do you think the author’s objective was in writing this book? How is the author achieving his/her purpose? If so, how? If not, what are the issues?

8. Do you agree or disagree with the author’s opinions so far? Explain.