Dialectical Journal Topics for *The Miracle Worker*

*Remember: A dialectical journal is another name for a double-entry journal or reader-response journal. It’s basically a conversation between you and what you are reading. Think of your dialectical journal as a series of conversations with the text you are reading. This process is meant to help you develop a better understanding of what you read. Writing a dialectical journal is a useful way to process what you’re reading, prepare yourself for a group discussion, and gather textual evidence.* ***On the left side you are to find textual evidence (a direct quotation with MLA citations) to support the topic assigned. On the Right side you must Respond, analyze and reflect. Now that you have mastered the claims, your goal is to focus more now, on the analysis and elaboration (explain how your evidence supports the topic).***

Act 1

Journal 1: Setting (consider historical context)

Journal 2: elements of humor

Journal 3: motif of light (consider both how it is used as an element in drama AND as a larger idea)

Act 2

Journal 4: flashback

Journal 5: symbolism (think outside the box here, there are so many).

Journal 6: Your choice

Act 3

Journal 7: Theme of rebirth/resurrection

Journal 8: Responding to Criticism

Journal 9: Your choice