

◎ DIALECTICAL JOURNAL ENTRIES

- ◎ **Writing can produce strong emotional responses. Often, the meaning of the author's statements—and their purpose—becomes apparent only after careful thought and reflection.**
- ◎ **Directions: After having read *The Most Dangerous Game* choose THREE examples of key sentences or phrases that evoke further thought. Record the phrases or sentences and then complete a reflection, that demonstrates your clear mastery of the annotation strategies.**
- ◎ **1. What does the author say? (a paraphrase) 2. How does the author say it? (What devices did the author use clarify his perspective) One literary and one rhetorical device 3. What does it mean? (What are some of the themes or major ideas in the excerpt) 4. What does it mean to me? (What are some personal connections I can make to the phrase or sentence and what does that connection suggest about me and my identity?)**

Excerpt from the text

“Life is for the strong, to be lived by the strong, and, if needs be, taken by the strong. The weak of the world were put here to give the strong pleasure.

I am strong. Why should I not use my gift? If I wish to hunt, why should I not? I hunt the scum of the earth—sailors from tramp ships—lascars,¹⁰ blacks, Chinese, whites, mongrels—a thoroughbred horse or hound is worth more than a score of them.”

“But they are men,” said Rainsford, hotly.

“Precisely,” said the general. “That is why I use them. It gives me pleasure. They can reason, after a fashion. So they are dangerous.”

This portion of the text centers on a conversation taking place between General Zaroff and Rainsford. General Zaroff has just revealed that he prefers to hunt human beings in lieu of traditional animals, because they have the ability to reason. He also tries to legitimize his choice by suggesting that the kind of individuals he hunts are merely the scum of the earth, and that somehow grants him license to take their lives. Rainsford is visibly disturbed by the revelation. The theme of racism and overall intolerance shines through in this excerpt. General Zaroff feels superior to the men that he hunts due to his race and class, and therefore feels entitled to his treatment of them, and feels it is warranted. There are multiple conflicts present in this excerpt, but man v. man and man v. society are the most notable. The man v. man conflicts are the most obvious as they highlight the clear battles between General Zaroff and the men he hunts. A less obvious example would be Rainsford and his battle to stay alive while defending his personal beliefs and social norms that suggest that human beings should not hunt one another. This reminds me of individual in our society who hold xenophobic and racist views toward people who migrate to America. After the Corona virus the treatment of Asian people by many entities was horrendous. Additionally they felt entitled to treat them this way because they somehow feel they are responsible for bringing the virus to America.

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