

Name (first & last): _____

Teacher's Name: _____

Class: _____

Date: _____



How to do a Close Reading (or Annotation)

Close Reading is purposefully reading a text several times in order to analyze and gain a deep understanding of the information.

1) 1st Reading: ***Key Ideas and Details***= “Scraping the surface”

-READ THROUGH, AND CONSIDER THE OVERALL KEY MESSAGE

- connect to background knowledge (what do you already know about this)?
- focus on key ideas (just get an overall impression)

2) 2nd Reading: ***Craft and Structure***= “Digging deeper”

-READ THROUGH, AND BREAK IT DOWN, FOCUSING ON TEXT FEATURES LIKE:

- organizational patterns like where the beginning/middle/end are, or how the lines are broken up, or how the author uses punctuation or repetition
- **vocabulary**- define unknown words using context clues or a dictionary,
- what figurative language is used (How is the author manipulating you as a reader- what images pop up in your imagination)?

3) 3rd Reading: ***Integration of Knowledge and Ideas***= “Processing the treasure”

-FINAL READING SHOULD BE MORE MEANINGFUL NOW THAT YOU’VE DONE ALL THAT ANALYSIS WORK. THIS TIME, SYNTHESIZE THE INFORMATION (BRING IT ALL TOGETHER) AND REFLECT ON WHAT IT MEANS TO YOU.

- think about what the author’s point really is
- consider how the information relates to your life,
- summarize the key idea and supporting points

SOME THINGS YOU MIGHT BE ASKED TO DO AT THIS POINT:

- compare it to other texts you’ve already read, using a graphic organizer
- record your thinking in notes/graphic organizer/post-it notes etc.
- write a response or mimic the style of the author in your own work

WHEN I ASK YOU TO DO A CLOSE READING, HERE’S WHAT I EXPECT TO SEE...

- ☑ Highlight/underline: Key Idea
- ☑ Highlight//underline: Examples (points that support the Key Idea)
- ☑ Highlight/underline= Data/Evidence (like important dates, names, numbers, places)
- ☑ Mark any noticeable patterns, repetition, rhyme, figurative language
- ☑ CIRCLE & FIND DEFINITIONS FOR= Vocabulary (Write definitions in the margins)!
- ☑ ASK QUESTIONS! (Write them in the margins)!
- ☑ MAKE CONNECTIONS! (Write them in the margins)! Do you agree/disagree? Make notes!
- ☑ summarize the key idea and any significant supporting points

“I’ve Learned” by Maya Angelou

I've learned that no matter what happens, or how bad it seems today, life does go on, and it will be better tomorrow.

I've learned that you can tell a lot about a person by the way he/she handles these three things: a rainy day, lost luggage, and tangled Christmas tree lights.

I've learned that regardless of your relationship with your parents, you'll miss them when they're gone from your life.

I've learned that making a "living" is not the same thing as making a "life."

I've learned that life sometimes gives you a second chance.

I've learned that you shouldn't go through life with a catcher's mitt on both hands; you need to be able to throw something back.

I've learned that whenever I decide something with an open heart, I usually make the right decision.

I've learned that even when I have pains, I don't have to be one.

I've learned that every day you should reach out and touch someone.
People love a warm hug, or just a friendly pat on the back.

I've learned that I still have a lot to learn.

I've learned that people will forget what you said, people will forget what you did, but people will never forget how you made them feel.