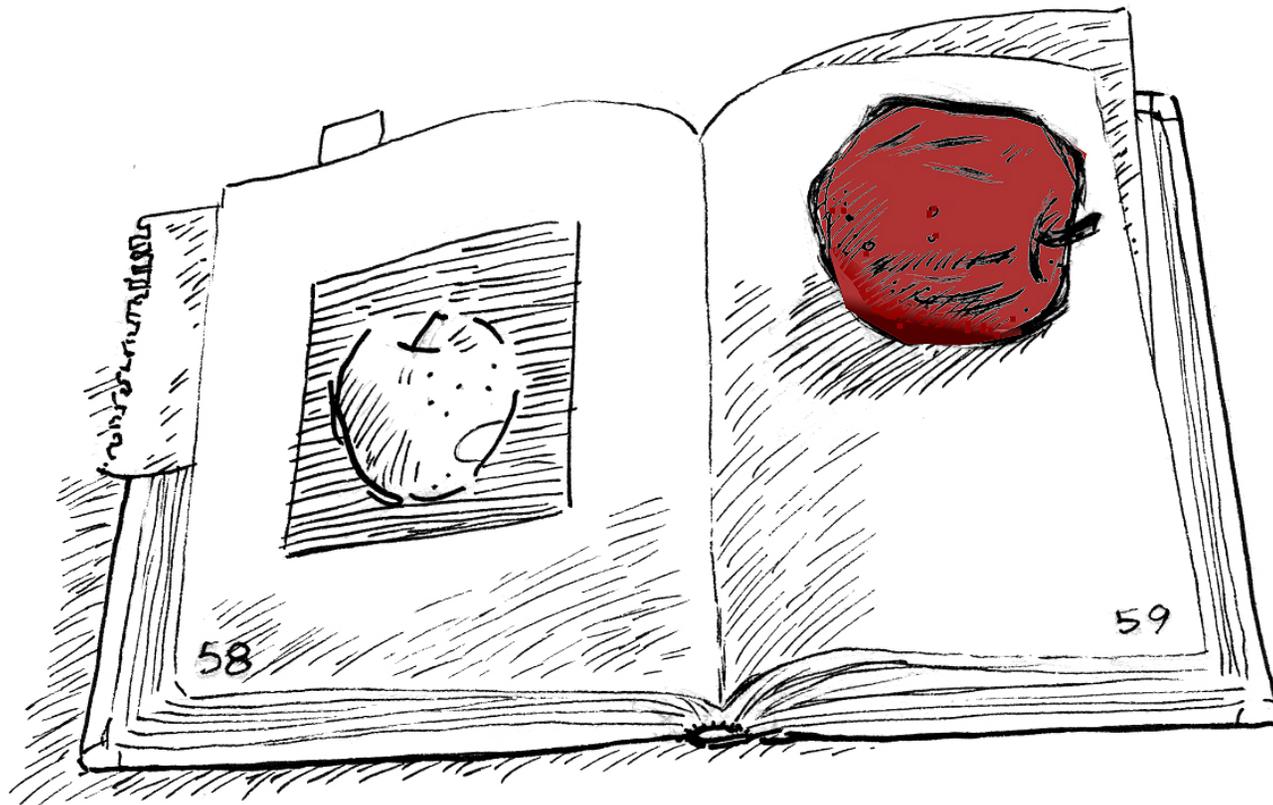


Critical Analysis & the Reading Process



Guidelines for Analytical Process

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- *Before writing an academic paper, it is important to read the chosen material more than just once.*

Guidelines for Reading-First Reading

The first reading acts on an *emotional* level.

Read first for enjoyment, without interruption

1. notice the use of language and word play
2. consider the actions of the characters:
3. note the setting and the atmosphere of the scene

Afterwards, as soon as possible, determine the impact

1. Do you have any unanswered questions?
2. Did you like the story?
3. Did you relate to any of the characters?

Guidelines for Reading-Second Reading

The second reading acts on an *analytical* level.

Concentrate on the plot details:

1. To answer any possible questions
2. To confirm what you already know

Determine:

1. elements which make the work successful
2. elements which could be changed/added to strengthen the work

Guidelines for Reading-Third Reading

The third reading specifically targets a higher level of *critical* analysis.

- Since you can predict what will happen, you can analyze *in closer details* why characters act or react in the manner they do.
- Newer insights can be gained regarding the author's strategy.
- Hidden symbols are easier to recognize.
- You can determine influences and inspirations for the author.

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