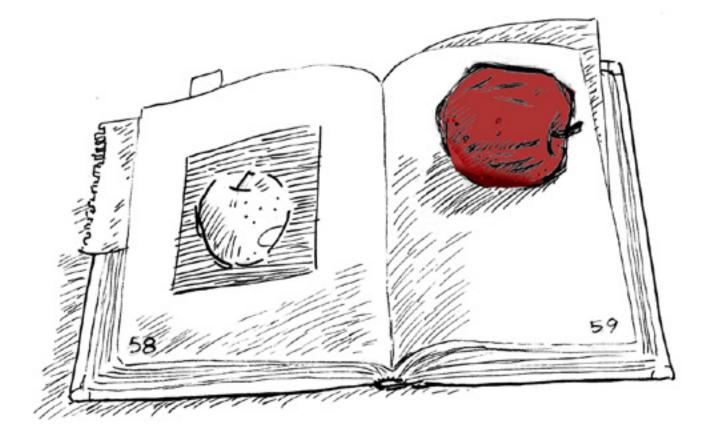
The Reading Process



Guidelines for Reading

You should read all material *three* times.

revised: 06.08.12 || English 1301: Composition I || D. Glen Smith, instructor

First Reading

The first reading acts on an emotional level.

• Read first for enjoyment, without interruption; find the essay's purpose.

- Concentrate on the basic ideas of the essay.
- Notice the language used and the tone of voice.

Afterwards, as soon as possible, determine:

- 1. Do you have any unanswered questions?
- 2. What reactions does the author expect from the audience?
- 3. Do you *like* the piece? Be able to state *why* or *why not*.
- 4. What is the basic topic the author has chosen?

Second Reading

The second reading acts on an analytical level.

- Likewise, material you may have missed on the first reading can be explored in better detail.
- Resolves unanswered questions.

Second Reading

Concentrate on the essay's details:

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

Determine:

- 1. the specific topic and the author's specific intentions; are there any secondary hidden topics?
- 2. the conflicts shown
- 3. How do these two elements affect the developments and resolution of the full essay?

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 the intentions of the essay.
- Newer insights can be gained regarding the author's strategy.
- You will recognize the pattern of writing the author has chosen.
- You will see the elements of the essay is stronger detail.

Third Reading

It is important to be open to the entire work.

- 1. Consider how it relates to other readings.
- 2. Discover what sets it apart from other writings.

Ask yourself:

- 1. What images are used in the story?
- 2. What literary devices are used in the story?
- 3. What is the author's main goal for telling me this story?

Review of Reading Points

- The first reading acts on an <u>emotional level</u>.
- The second reading acts on an <u>analytical level</u>.
- The third reading targets a higher level of *critical* analysis.