

Topic/Story

**Form:
(Appearance, Style, Format)**

- What type of story is it: Gothic, Existential, Fantasy, etc.?
- What figurative language is used? (metaphor, simile, personification, etc.)
 - What images are used in the work?
- Any obvious allusions or symbols used in the work?
 - What is the main theme of the piece?
 - What is the overall mood of the piece?
 - What language style is expressed, formal or colloquial?

**Questions:
(Interpretation, Connotation, Denotation)**

—to ask yourself:
Do I understand the piece? What is the theme?

- *Be able to summarize the plot.*

—to ask the author:
What was the writer's intention?

- *Be able to identify any social issue shown in the work.*

—to ask academia/the class:
Why this piece is included in the literary canon?

- *Be able to defend your opinion.*

**Content:
(Meaning, Inference, Suggestive)**

Is the author attempting to express social issues?
Is the expression of the social issues successful?
Are there any connections to current events today?

Relevance:

(Significance, Substance, Connection)

- How does the work relate to your own life?
- Does it remind you of a past event or situation?
- Describe other similar works or comparable styles common with the individual story.
- How does the work relate to the poet's life?
- Study the time period in which the piece was written.
- How much influence can be shown from an outside cultural event?