

CLOSE READING

(Literature)

Read the text three times



First Reading: What does it say?

(Key ideas and details)

- Can I retell it? (Beginning, Middle, End)
- Can I summarize it? (Somebody, Wanted, But, So, Then)
- Can I give details? (who, what, where, when, why, how)

Second Reading: How was it said?

(Craft and Structure)

- What interesting words were used (sensory words, strong verbs, descriptive words, new vocabulary, etc.) Were any words or phrases repeated?
- How were the words used and structured (figurative language, literary devices, text structure and features)
- Who is the narrator? (point of view)

Third Reading: But what does it mean?

(Integration of Knowledge and Ideas)

- What is the author trying to tell me? (moral, theme)
- What inferences can I make?
- What connections can I make? (text-to-self, text-to-text, text-to-media, text-to-world)

CLOSE READING

(Literature)

First Reading: What does it say?

Retell

B →

Who are the characters?
What is the setting?

In the beginning...



M →

What happens to the
characters? First..., next...,
then...,

...in the middle...

E →

Do the characters change at
the end? - or not? How do they
change or do they remain
steadfast?

...the end.

CLOSE READING

(Literature)

First Reading: What does it say?

Summarize

Somebody...

The exposition

Who is the main character?

Where does (s)he live?

Wanted...

The rising action

What does the character want?



But...

The conflict/the climax

What is the character's problem?

So...

The falling action

How does the character solve the problem?

Then...

The resolution

What happens at the end of the story?

What is the resolution?

CLOSE READING

(Literature)

First Reading: What does it say?

Details

Who

Who are all the characters?

What

What are the characters doing?
What do they want?

Where

Where are the characters:
in the beginning? In the middle? in the
end?

When

When does everything happen?
In a day? In a year? Over a lifetime?

Why

Why do the characters act the way they
do?

How

How do the characters get what they
want?



CLOSE READING

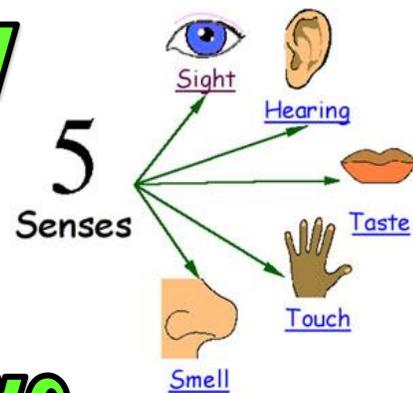
(Literature)

Second Reading: How was it said?

Interesting Words

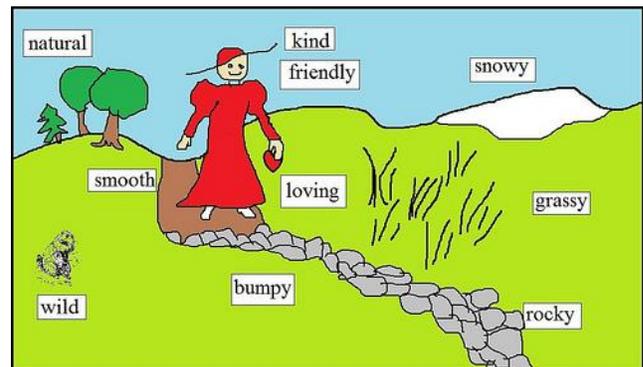
Sensory

What words appeal to your sense of touch, taste, sight, smell, and hearing?



Descriptive

What words describe the characters, the setting, and the problem?



New Vocabulary

What new words did I learn?

Copy and paste the link below for an example of close reading for vocabulary.

CLOSE READING

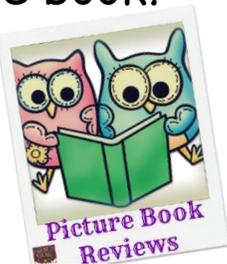
(Literature)

Second Reading: How was it said?

Word Use and Structure

Structure

Is this - a picture book?
a chapter book?
a poem?
a play?



Skyscraper, skyscraper,
Scrape me some sky:
Tickle the sun
While the stars go by.
Tickle the stars
While the sun's climbing high,
Then skyscraper, skyscraper
Scrape me some sky.



Literary Devices

Did the author use words in a
creative or interesting way?

Figures

simile

metaphor

of

personification

Speech

alliteration

idioms

onomatopoeia

hyperbole

Narrator

Who is telling the story? First person? Third person limited?
Third person omniscient?

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Third Reading: But what does it mean?

What is the author trying to tell me?

Inferences

What can I learn from this text that the author didn't say? How can I use what I already know to help me understand what the author means?



Brain power + the text = inference

Theme

What subject, topic, or idea does the author want you to think about? Is there a lesson that the author hopes you will learn?



Connections

Do the characters have any traits that I have? Have the characters experienced anything I have? Does this story remind me of another book, movie, video or website? Is this story like anything in the real world?

COMPREHENSION
Making Connections

