

19 March 2019

Homework

Due tomorrow

Critical Reading Strategies notes AND
“Letter to MLK” annotations + notes due at
beginning of class

Due Monday, 3/27

AD project + presentation

- I will share a folder where you will “turn in” your presentation + any electronic projects like videos
- Presentations will be in random order unless you know you will be gone on one of the presentation days; if that is the case, please schedule your presentation with me ahead of time (not after you missed)

Bellwork

Place your KWL’s on your desk. Make sure they are ready to turn in (heading = top left)

With your group, discuss:

- What stood out to you when you read the Birmingham Ordinances.
- Aside from straight up segregation, what do you think the purpose of these ordinances was?

Turn in your KWL to the pink basket.



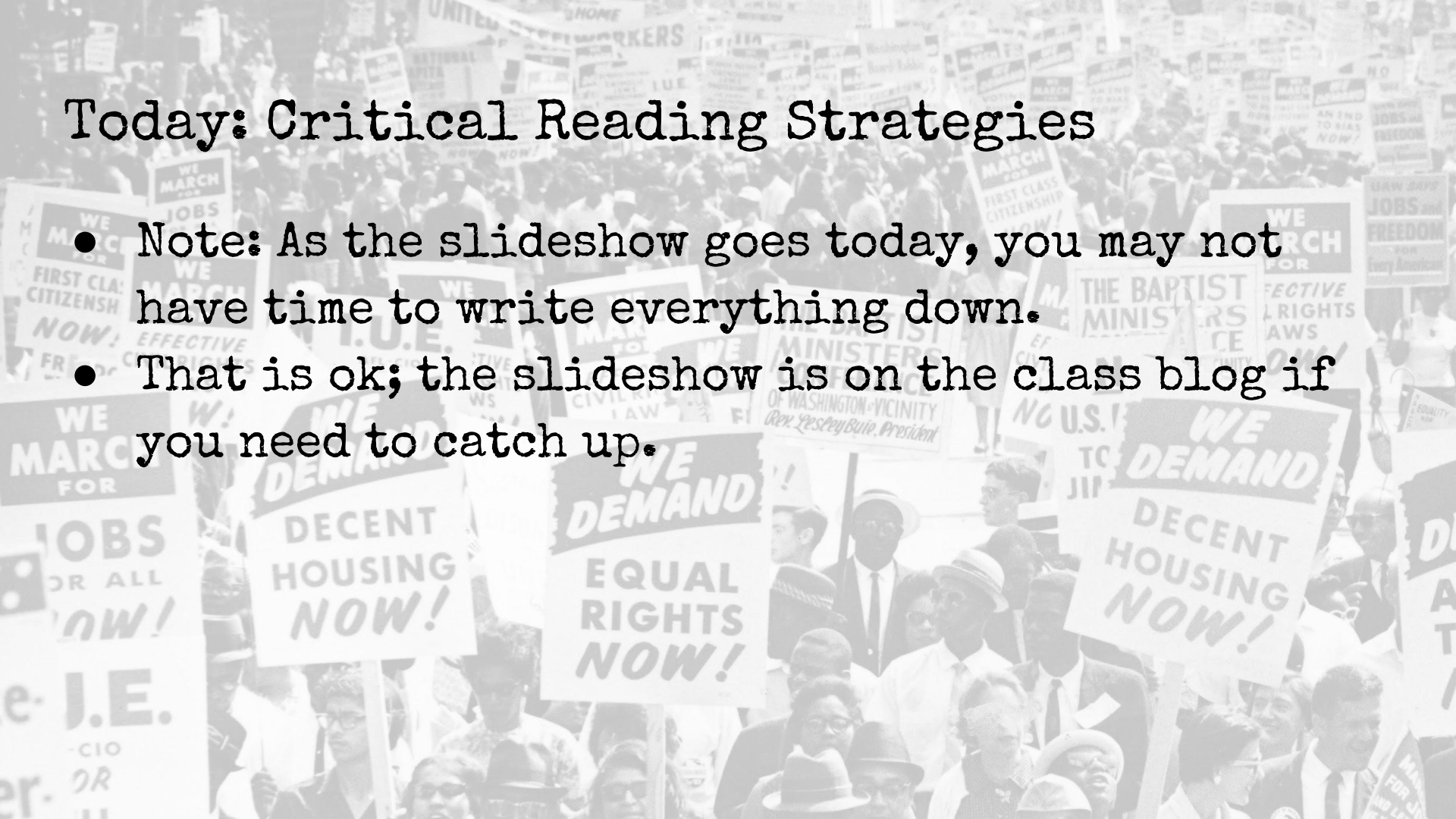


Today: Critical Reading Strategies

Fill in the **left side** of the chart at the **top of the first page** of the handout you picked up on your way in

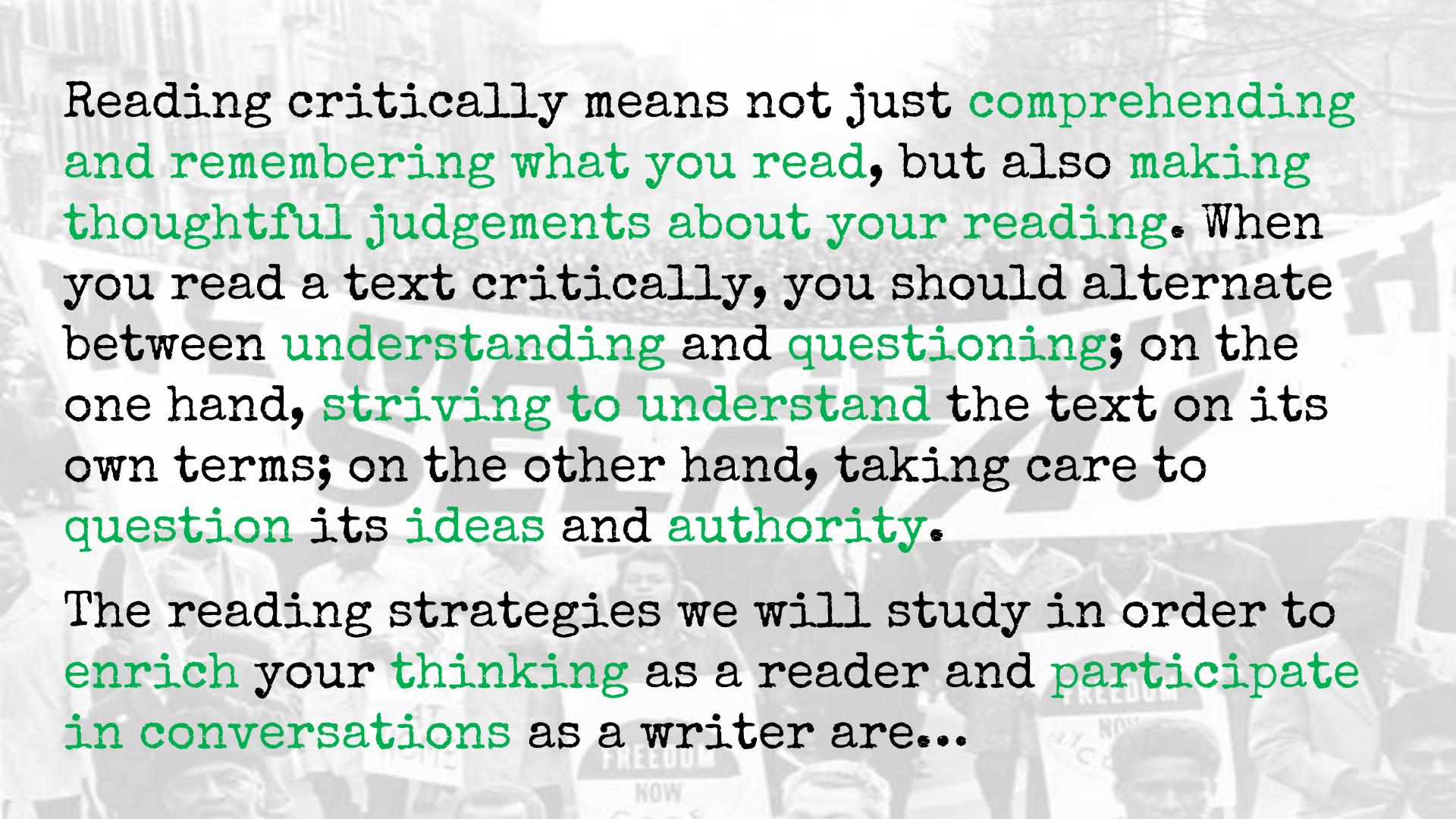
Today: Critical Reading Strategies

- Note: As the slideshow goes today, you may not have time to write everything down.
- That is ok; the slideshow is on the class blog if you need to catch up.



Being a good reader is important for AP English students because...

- ... the multiple choice section of the AP exam requires you to quickly read and analyze challenging (slash boring, am I right??) passages
- ... the synthesis essay on the AP exam requires you to quickly read and select evidence from several (also possibly boring) passages
- ... the rhetorical analysis essay on the AP exam requires you to quickly read and analyze a (possibly boring) passage
- ... one excellent way to improve your argument writing skills is to read effective arguments as models for your writing

The background of the slide is a faded, grayscale image of a protest. In the foreground, several people are visible, some holding up signs. One prominent sign in the lower center reads "FREEDOM NOW" in bold, capital letters. Other signs are partially visible, some with the word "NOW" repeated. The overall scene suggests a public demonstration or rally.

Reading critically means not just **comprehending and remembering what you read**, but also **making thoughtful judgements about your reading**. When you read a text critically, you should alternate between **understanding and questioning**; on the one hand, **striving to understand** the text on its own terms; on the other hand, taking care to **question its ideas and authority**.

The reading strategies we will study in order to **enrich your thinking** as a reader and **participate in conversations** as a writer are...

1. Annotating

Definition

Recording your reactions to, interpretations of, and questions about a text as you read it

Checklist

- Mark the text with notations like circling words to define, underlining key words and phrases, bracketing important sentences and passages, and drawing arrows to connect ideas
- Write marginal comments to summarize each paragraph, define words, note responses and questions, identify interesting strategies, and point out patterns
- Layer additional markings as you re-read
- You definitely need to do this on the AP rhetorical analysis and synthesis essays

2. Paraphrasing

Definition

Restating what you have read in mostly your own words to clarify meaning (about the same length as the original text)

Checklist

- Re-read the passage to be paraphrased; look up unfamiliar words
- Translate the passage into your own words, placing quotation marks around “borrowed” words

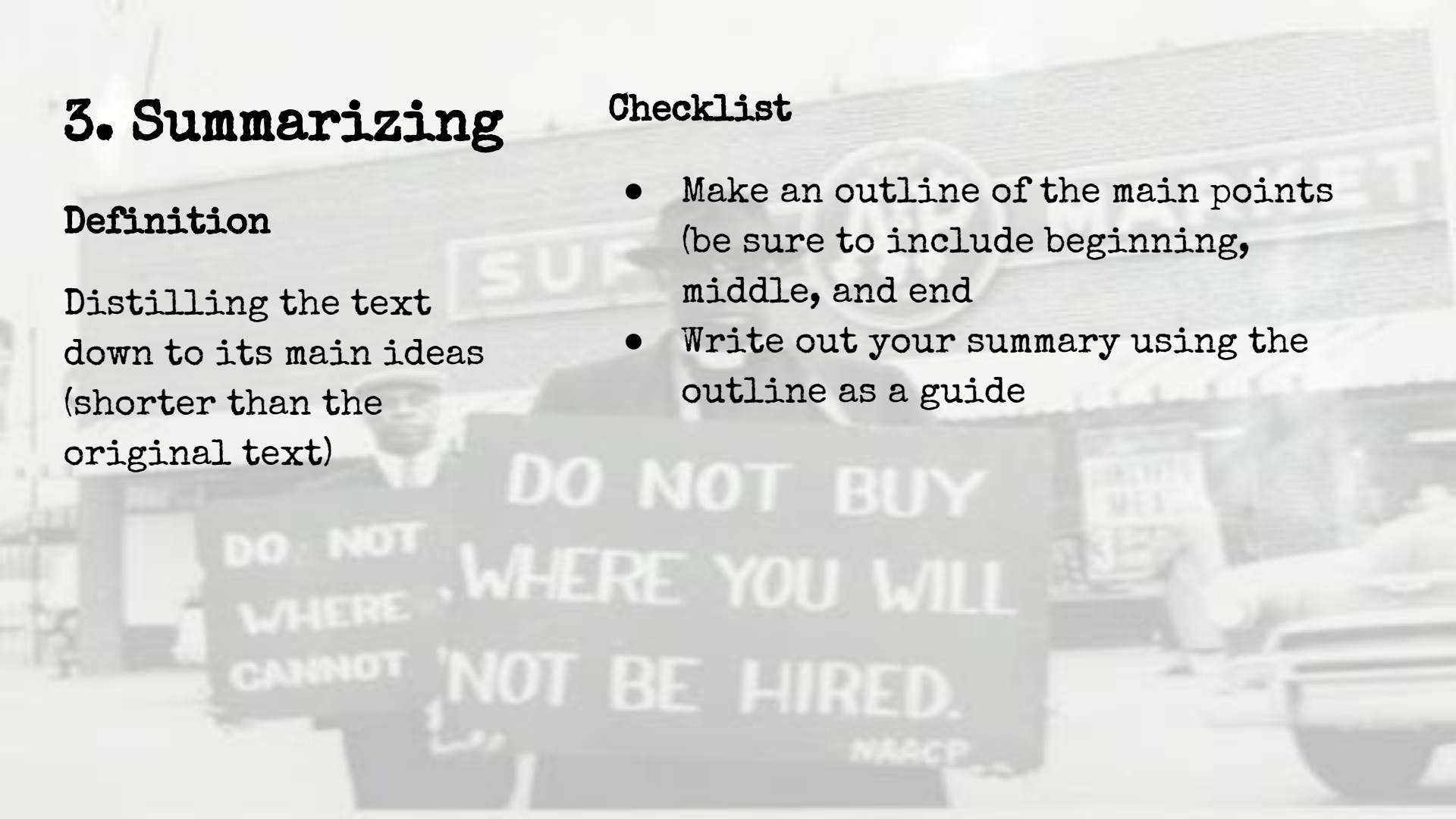
3. Summarizing

Definition

Distilling the text down to its main ideas (shorter than the original text)

Checklist

- Make an outline of the main points (be sure to include beginning, middle, and end)
- Write out your summary using the outline as a guide



4. Contextualizing

Definition

Placing a text in its historical and cultural contexts

Checklist

- Describe the historical and cultural situation as it is represented in the reading AND in any other reliable sources related to the text
- Consider how your understanding and judgment of the reading are affected by differences between its context and your current context
- Use the italicized information provided on the AP exam to do this

5. Taking Inventory

Definition

Listing and grouping your annotations and other notes to find meaningful patterns

Checklist

- Examine your annotations for patterns or repetitions (recurring images, stylistic features, repeated words and phrases, repeated examples or illustrations) and reliance on particular writing strategies
- List and group the items in the pattern
- Decide what the pattern indicates about the reading
- You definitely need to do this on the AP rhetorical analysis and synthesis essays

6. Outlining

Definition

Identifying the text's main ideas and supporting details

Checklist

- Reread each paragraph, identifying the central idea and the subordinate ideas that support it (evidence and explanation)
- Write out an outline that reflects the relationship between ideas

I. Central idea

A. Idea supporting I

1. Idea supporting supporting A

2. Additional support for A

B. New ideas supporting I

7. Synthesizing

Definition

Integrating ideas and information from other sources into your own writing

Checklist

- Read a variety of sources on your topic, annotating the passages
- Look for patterns among your sources, possibly supporting or refuting your ideas or those of other sources
- Blend ideas into a paragraph (or more) that presents your ideas and quotes, and/or summarized or paraphrased ideas from your sources

8. Reflecting on challenges to your beliefs and values

Checklist

Definition

Critically examine your personal response to the text

- Identify challenges by marking the text where you feel your beliefs and values are being opposed, criticized, or unfairly characterized
- Write a few paragraphs reflecting on why you feel challenged. Do not defend your feelings; instead, analyze them to see where they come from

9. Evaluating the logic of an argument

Definition

Determine whether the evidence supporting the thesis is reasonable

Checklist

- Use the ABC test:

A: Appropriateness (do the reasons and support directly relate to the thesis?)

B: Believability (can you accept the reasons and support as true?)

C: Consistency and completeness (does the argument have any contradictions? Has it omitted any important considerations?)

10. Recognizing emotional manipulation

Definition

Discerning between legitimate appeals to emotion and false or exaggerated appeals

Checklist

- Note where in the text you sense that emotional appeals are being used
- Assess whether any appeals were **unfairly** manipulative (not ALL emotion is **unfairly** manipulative)

11. Judging the writer's credibility

Definition

- Considering whether writers represent different points of view fairly and know what they are writing about
- Writers establish credibility by showing their knowledge of the subject, building common ground with readers, and responding fairly to objections and opposing arguments

Checklist

- Look over your annotations for places where the writer establishes knowledge of the subject, establishes common ground, and deals with objections / opposition
- Evaluate what you find credible or questionable in the writing

12. Looking for patterns of opposition

Definition

Analyzing the values and assumptions embodied in the language of a text

Checklist

- Annotate for places where the writer presents opposing perspectives
- For each pair, put an asterisk beside the idea the author agrees with
- Study the starred ideas. What do they help you understand about the author's message?

13. Exploring the significance of language

Checklist

Definition

Examining how choices in language in the text contribute to meaning

- Take inventory of your annotations over language choices
- Group similar strategies together
- Write a paragraph exploring the meaning of these patterns (i.e. connect to rhetorical situation)

Categorizing

This color codes the order in which you complete tasks + which critical reading strategies match up with the task

- AS YOU READ
- AFTER YOU HAVE READ
- OUTSIDE KNOWLEDGE
- PERSONAL RESPONSE
- THINK FROM THE AUTHOR'S PERSPECTIVE
- CRITIQUE ARGUMENTATION
- Annotation, paraphrase, summary, contextualize
- Summary, inventory, outline
- Contextualize, synthesize
- Reflecting on challenges, synthesize
- Patterns of opposition
- Logic, emotion, credibility, opposition



Now:

Apply these strategies to “Letter to MLK”

Due at start of class tomorrow:

- Critical reading strategy notes
- “Letter to MLK” activity (finished)