

Author, Title, Date

Form & Genre

(What form does the writing take? Poem, Play, Short-Story, Novel; Does it tell a story [narrative]?)

Historical Context

(What important things were happening around this time?)

(Does the text only make sense in its historical context, or does it have similar/new meaning for present?)

Register

(What kind of language does writer use? Is it particular to a social group?)

Narrative (Story)

Identify the parts of a story:

- 1) Characters: Main character (protagonist); Opponent to main character (antagonist); other characters
- 2) Dialogue: Conversations between characters (must not be confused with author)
- 3) Narrator: A voice outside the story that tells the story, sometimes explaining or suggesting meaning (must not be confused with author)
- 4) Plot: The main action & events of story in a sequence (beginning to climax to end)
- 5) Climax: The most important point in the story where action determines how story will end
- 6) Theme: Repeated ideas or images in story that help readers understand meaning of events and words

Irony

(Is the meaning of words on the surface or are there layers of meaning for words?)

Identify the literary devices being used:

- 1) Allusion (Does writer refer to author texts, people or places? Why?)
- 2) Metaphor (What kinds of metaphors are used and how do they effect the meaning of the text?)
- 3) Symbols (Are there images, places, or characters representing ideas? What meanings do they bring?)

Purpose

(Why is writer writing this text and speaking this way?)

(What does he/she hope to accomplish?)

Meaning

(What is the main point(s) or idea(s) this text is trying to communicate?)

Write down each category on a separate sheet of paper. Answer and explain each question fully.