

Author, Title, Date

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?)

Audience

(Who is the author speaking to & why?)

Form & Genre

(What form does the writing take?)

Register

(What kind of language does writer use?)

(Is it particular to a social group?)

Irony or Plain Talk

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

(Which words?)

(What kind of literary devices are being used?)

Allusions

(Does writer refer to author texts, people or places? Why?)

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.