

Close Reading Questions

- Focus on finite chunks of challenging text that are short, dense, and critical to the story/ article.
- Come in clusters that build upon on another to reveal how and why a critical passage was written.
- Involve re-reading of the passage line by line, multiple times, as well as any sections the passage may allude to.
- Require students to cite and/or explain all (or the great majority) of the evidence presented in a segment of the text. This is a far more rigorous challenge than simply asking for evidence. **Students can't "cherry pick" a simple or obvious piece.**
- Ask students to paraphrase a particularly dense and complex (in language) passage that is critical to the understanding of the text.