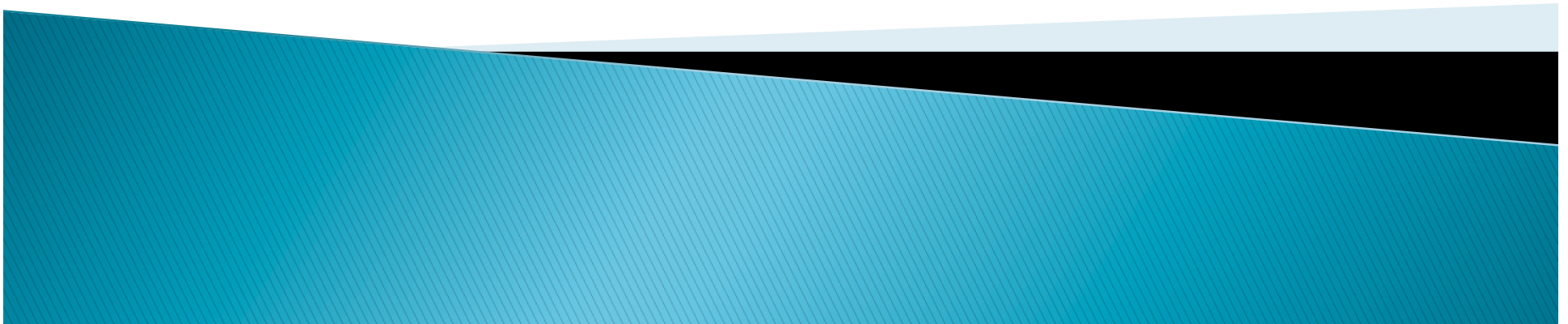


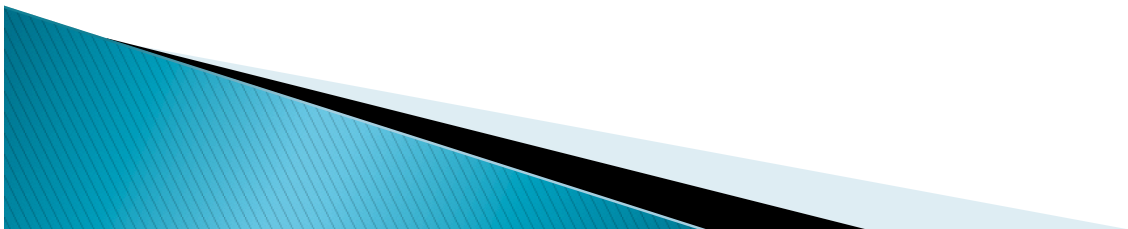
# Close Reading

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# What is Close Reading?

- ▶ Close Reading is:
- ▶ “an interaction between the reader and text”. (Douglas Fisher via Falling in Love with Close Reading.)
- ▶ “It is about making careful observations of a text and the interpretations of those observations.” (Patricia Kain via Falling in Love with Close Reading.)
- ▶ It is reading a text and then re-reading a smaller portion of the text to gather new ideas



# Close Reading includes:

- » •short passages and excerpts
- diving right into the text
- reread on purpose
- reading with “tools” in hand
- discussing the text
- responding to questions about the text

# Close Reading Instruction:

- ▶ Raise engagement and joy of reading new and unfamiliar text
- ▶ Lead to student independence
- ▶ Must be repeated
- ▶ Must have time set aside for it, don't rush
- ▶ Must respond to strengths
- ▶ Only ONE piece of your reading instruction

# What is a “lens”?

- ▶ A “lens” is a tool to look at a text in a particular way. For example, as I am reading the text, for the second time, I might look through the “lens” of structure. Why did the author write the passage the way they did? What does this structure show me? How does looking at the structure help me to have a better or different understanding of the text?
- ▶ Lyrics, poems, articles, expository, opinion, commercials.





# Google Chrome Commercial >>

“lens”: Point of View.



# A few of my favorite “Lenses”:

Point of View: Through whose “eyes” are you reading the text?

Tone: How do the words throughout the passage express tone?  
How does seeing the tone help you to better understand the passage or see new parts and ideas in the passage?

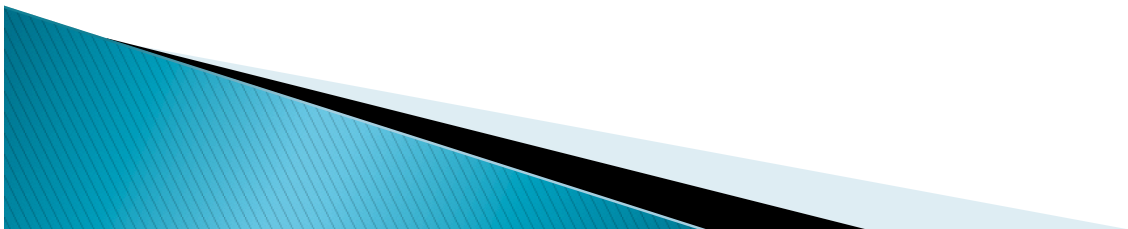
Word Choice: When focusing on the word choice, how does this change your understanding of the passage. How does this affect the way you see the author’s intention?

Description: What do all of the details show you? How do all of the details help you to have a better understanding of the text?

Text evidence: Using specific text evidence, form an opinion, answer a Text Dependent Question and use evidence from the text to support your thinking.

# Steps in Close Reading:

- ▶ **First Read: Key Ideas and Details.** *Give a reason for reading the passage and have students read on their own.*
- ▶ **Second Read: Craft and Structure.** *Select a piece of the passage and look at that part of the text explicitly for a specific purpose. (To answer a question or from the point of view of a particular “lens”.)*
- ▶ **Third Read: Integration of Knowledge and Ideas.** *Go deeper. Make connections. Answer questions. Have further conversations. Push students to form opinions using the text.*





- ▶ The text should:
  - ✓ offer students something they can learn, think and reflect on
  - ✓ be something that students have prior experience with
  - ✓ be something MOST students can access
  - ✓ should challenge students
  - ✓ be HIGH INTEREST LEVEL

Recommendations for selecting a text:

Beth Burke, NBCT

Let's give this a try together using a song; "Havoc" by Alanis Morissette.

Sequence of lesson:

- (1) Start by playing the song. After the song is over, ask what things were heard in the song. What are some of the words that stood out to them? Turn and talk with a partner about what was heard.
- (2) Next, pass out a copy of the lyrics. Read the lyrics. Underline or highlight words that are repeated. Question to think about after the reading and highlighting is done: Why would the song writer repeat these words? What is the message that the writer is trying to convey? Share ideas. Reminder, go back to the text and pull specific details to help support the ideas being formed.



# What should we do next?

- ▶ Things to think about: This is only ONE part of your Reading Program. One. Therefore, let's use this activity to PUSH our students to think harder about the text.
- ▶ We want to move away from Personal Connections (not that they are bad) and have our students GO BACK TO THE TEXT. We do this by having STRONG Text Dependent Questions.
- ▶ Try to build a STRONG Text Dependent Question using one of the passages given to you.



- ▶ Close Reading text is not previewed, it is just presented.
- ▶ It is a text that helps form opinions and includes enough information to justify those opinions.
- ▶ It is a text that will motivate conversation.
- ▶ IT IS INTERESTING!

What does all this even mean?

Close Reading DOES require planning and thought. Not just any text will do!