

Turning Points in Literature (week 2)

- Critical reading gives us a richer understanding of the text, its meanings, its aesthetic, cultural, historical and social significance and impact
- Literary genres, different kinds of language and style
- Produce specific meanings and effects
- Constantly ask questions (even if stupid)
- Big picture, then detailed analysis
- Make connections between – form and content
 - Ideas, themes within the text
 - Patterns (of similarity, contrast, repetition)
 - The text and the social and historical contexts in which it has been produced, circulated and (at different times) read
- Identify points that resist meaning, don't seem to fit or are incongruous or ambiguous
- We are becoming too literal (poetry is meant to be emotional before literal)
- Key terms from poetry analysis
 - poetic persona, poetic voice
 - versification
 - rhyme (partial/incomplete), rhythm and meter
 - metaphor
 - image
 - symbol
 - unstressed (U)/stressed syllable (--)
 - iambic pentameter (U --)

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Page 1 of 1