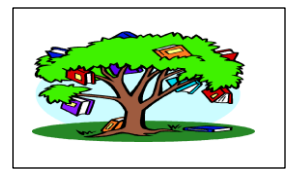


Toward Better Literacy: Reference Outlines



Reading Literature

Preview:

- Know context: Type (genre); Subject; Person or voice; Title; Table of contents
- Jacket, foreword, preface, introduction, abstract, first page (theme, thesis)
- Sample a chapter and scan index and notes for sources and names
- Skim headings, bold words, figures, tables, charts, drawings, and captions

Read and Annotate:

- Underline important passages.
- [Bracket] quotes that will be used in the paper.
- *Star key thoughts.
- Number things in a series.

Review:

- Answer questions posed in the preview
- Place the work in context: author, time and circumstance

Critical Reading (SIASE):

- Utilize active engagement on every level: **literal**, **inferential**, and **evaluative**
- **Summarize**: restate in your own words
- **Interpret**: Every work has one valid interpretation (the author's)
 - Sometimes authors say more than they know
 - Discern the foundation (premises, assumptions and presuppositions)
 - Consider sources of evidence (fact, inference and opinion)
 - Fact vs. Opinion (facts are verifiable outside of writer)
 - Bias and agenda: writer may use positive language to cloak bias
- **Analyze**: separate, see if evidence validates assertions
- **Synthesize**: connect what is read with other knowledge or your own
- **Evaluate**: how well is the author's purpose accomplished

Come to Conclusions:

- A work is meaningful when it relates to the reader's **beliefs**, **attitudes**, **values** and **experiences**

Genres of Literature:

- Poetry: intensive, deliberate, and careful use of language
 - Lines, stanzas, rhyme, meter, metaphor, image
- Fiction: narrator, plot, character, setting, theme
- Drama: for stage and acting
- Movies: controlled images
- Literature has a plot, characters, setting, point of view, images, and themes
 - Images are dealt with on several levels: **surface**, **interpretive**, **associative**, etc.