

Analysis of a Text

1. What literal statements can you make about the text? These are statements that no one could disagree with. Try to make 3-4 of these in just a few minutes.
2. Identify a central focus in the text. This can be the main opposition or contrast, shift, conflict or problem addressed.
3. Compose some (3-4) interpretive statements. Each of these is a complete sentence that makes sense of the author's possible reason(s) for presenting the focus in this way.
4. Choose the best of the statements in #3, and compose a central assertion. This is the interpretation you think captures the poem's essence best, and explain why it is the best.
5. Write one key question the piece raises for you or leaves you thinking about.