

CRITICAL READING LECTURE GUIDE

1. What is the author's PURPOSE?

Why did the author write this?

- To inform/ instruct
- To entertain
- To persuade

Examples & Notes:

2. Who is the intended AUDIENCE?

Who did the author intend to read this?

- What is the nature of the topic (technical, specialized, funny, general interest)?
- What type of language is used (technical, specialized, simple, humorous, serious, everyday)?
- What is the purpose (to inform/ instruct, entertain, persuade)?

Examples & Notes:

3. What is the POINT OF VIEW (POV)?

What is the author's position, argument, bias?

- Supportive
- Neutral
- Opposed

Connotation
vs.
Denotation

Examples & Notes:

4. What is the author's TONE? What is the INTENDED MEANING?

What does the choice of words and writing style about the author's attitude? What does the author really mean?

- Is the tone **neutral**
 - Unemotional
 - Dispassionate
 - Indifferent
- Is the tone **serious**?
 - Solemn
 - Serious
 - Reserved
- Is the tone **emotional**?
 - Concerned
 - Urgent
 - Compassionate
 - Sentimental
 - Self-pitying
 - Defiant
- Is the tone **supportive**?
 - Encouraging
 - Supportive
 - Enthusiastic
 - Optimistic
 - Approving
 - Positive
 - Sympathetic
 - Tolerant

Examples & Notes:

- Is the tone **critical**?
 - Criticizing
 - Disapproving
 - Pessimistic
 - Intolerant
- Is the tone **humorous**?
 - Satirical
 - Ironic
 - Sarcastic
 - Lighthearted
 - Irreverent
 - Cynical/Skeptical
 - Scornful
 - Contemptuous
 - Mocking
 - Malicious
 - Bitter
- Is the tone . . .
 - Authoritative
 - Ambivalent
 - Cautious
 - Arrogant
 - Grim
 - Apologetic
 - Humble

Examples & Notes: