

# CLOSE READING FINAL WORKSHOP

ENGL 108 / SEC. H & I / SUMMER LEAP 2009 / OLDHAM & RUBASKY / CHANG & LEE



In today's workshop, you will work to sharpen your close reading and analytical skills while at the same time giving your peers some feedback on their work. Please assess the ways in which your peers use tools of academic analysis and organization. Spend about 20 minutes on each paper.

- Begin with one person's paper and read it silently, making any comments that come to mind based on today's workshop questions.

- After you have read it through once silently, please work through the paper one paragraph at a time, reading the paper aloud to the writer. Please comment on the following as you read each paragraph:

1. Look for the writer's claim. Remember, the claim is where the writer sets out his or her argument and answers that "so what?" question. Label it on the paper.

2. Where does the writer use the academic tools of summary, paraphrase, quotation and analysis in his/her close reading? Mark places where you see summary with an "S," paraphrase with a "P," quotation with a "Q," and analysis with an "A." Are quotations followed up by analysis? Remember not to simply drop quotes into the paper, but always follow them up with analysis. As a reader, do you feel that the summary provides you with enough, not enough, or too much information?

3. Assess the cohesion of the paragraph. Does it make sense? Write the main idea of each paragraph in the margin. Should any paragraphs be split up or combined with others? Does each paragraph have a main idea?

4. Does the writing read fluently, or do certain words or sentences interfere with understanding? Please mark and try to make suggestions.

5. If you have time, please jot down any additional suggestions that you can offer that might help the writer to improve his/her work. Remember, it will be especially helpful if you explain to your partner why you think this change makes sense.