

WRITING SELF-ANALYSIS

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



As part of a metacognitive approach to writing, it is a good practice to re-evaluate your papers once they are “finished.” This self-analysis, though brief, of your **Close Reading** will enable you to look at your writing from another perspective, in turn, telling you a lot about yourself as a writer—how you work, where your strengths lie, and what you can do to continue to improve. Please choose one paragraph from your paper to analyze, answering each of the following questions in your Process Journal:

1. What do you argue in this paper? Complete this sentence: “In this paper, I want readers to see...” (This should only be 1 or 2 sentences.)
2. What is the purpose and main idea of the paragraphs that you have chosen to analyze here? How do they support your claim or argument?
3. What is the tone of your paragraph? Explain how does the paragraph convey this tone to your reader? How does this tone help contribute to your argument?
4. What do you think is good about these paragraphs?
5. What do you think might be improved? (Keeping in mind that there is always room for improvement in writing.)
6. What are some of the rhetorical “moves” you are making in this paragraph? (Examples might be: sarcasm, personal examples, metacommentary, an analogy.) Why were these moves effective, or maybe not so effective?