

# 1-2-3 STEPS TO TEXT ANALYSIS



So,  
You've got a writing task  
due and your teacher's told  
you to choose 3 different  
texts and analyse their  
features...AND...  
**COMPARE THEM TO  
THE CLASS TEXT!**

# HUH?!!



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# DON'T PANIC!!!



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## Think



# 1. 2. 3

# **1. WHAT is this text about?**

**(subject/content)**

# **2. HOW does it create meaning?**

**(language features/techniques)**

## **3. MAKE THE CONNECTIONS**

## **1. Considering the WHAT of a text**

## SUBJECT

- What is this text about?
- What is its subject?
- Keep synopsis or plot summary BRIEF!

## PURPOSE

Is the PURPOSE to:

- PERSUADE
- INFORM
- EDUCATE
- DESCRIBE
- EVOKE EMOTION
- COMBINATION OF ANY OR ALL OF THESE

# MESSAGE

Does the text carry an underlying message or moral?

# CONTEXT

- What is the historical, social and/or political **CONTEXT** of the text? Of the composer?
- What is the **EFFECT** or **INFLUENCE** of this on the text?

# AUDIENCE

- Who is the text's AUDIENCE, and how does this influence the production of the text?
- How is the AUDIENCE **POSITIONED** or made to feel in response to the text? How successful is the composer in doing so?
- How might other responders' perceive this text? Why? How?

# FORM

- What type of text is this? Narrative? Type of poem? Film? Website?
- What MEDIUM is the text delivered through?

## 2. HOW does this text CREATE meaning?

### PROSE FICTION

CHARACTERISATION

THEMES

STRUCTURE  
(PLOT,  
CHAPTERS,  
PARTS)

VOICE

SYNTAX

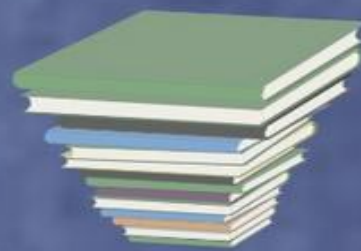
GRAMMAR

WORD CHOICE

VOCABULARY

LANGUAGE  
(FORMAL, CASUAL, EMOTIVE)

SYMBOLISM



# POETRY

VOICE



FORM

RHYME

RHYTHM

REPETITION

FIGURATIVE  
LANGUAGE

- Metaphors
- Similes
- Personification
- Onomatopoeia
- Alliteration
- Assonance

tone

JUXTAPOSITION

PUNCTUATION

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# FILM

DIALOGUE

CAMERA SHOTS

CAMERA ANGLES

EDITING

LIGHTING



CASTING

SOUND

MISE EN SCENE

MUSIC

MAKE-UP & COSTUMING

# DRAMA & PLAYS

CHARACTERISATION

SOUND

MUSIC

THEMES

LIGHTING

IRONY

STRUCTURE/PLOT

SYMBOLISM

PROPS

STAGE  
DIRECTIONS

COSTUMES



# SHAKESPEAREAN DRAMA



IRONY

LISTS

DRAMATIC IRONY

RHETORICAL DEVICES

IMAGERY

PUNS & OTHER WORD PLAY

PROSE v. BLANK VERSE

SOLILOQUIES

2 people clipped this slide

TEXTURE

# VISUAL TEXTS

COLOUR

SHAPE

SYMBOLISM

VECTORS



SALIENCE

FONT & POINT SIZE

POSITIONING

INTER-TEXTUALITY

LANGUAGE FEATURES



2 people clipped this slide

# NEWS REPORT

HEADLINES

Puns

Stereotypes

Figures of Speech



LAYOUT

Columns

Sub-headings

Inverted Triangle  
Most important points  
to Least

ACTION VERBS

MAY BE **PAST** OR **PRESENT TENSE**  
DEPENDING ON MEDIUM

DIRECT SPEECH/  
QUOTES

FOCUS ON THE 'WHAT' ASPECTS

GRAPHICS



Clip slide

Short paragraphs

# FEATURE ARTICLES

- More in-depth, detailed focus, usually on contemporary social issues or newsworthy individuals.
- May be more subjective than news reports – ie: composer's opinion influences their writing. Think CONTEXT and AUDIENCE.
- Reader interest maintained through narrative techniques, including:
  - IRONY
  - HUMOUR
  - DESCRIPTIVE WRITING
  - IMAGERY
  - ANECDOTES
  - LESS FORMAL LANGUAGE/COLLOQUIAL
- Layout features:
  - Catchy headlines
  - Drop quotes, to summarise and highlight

# SPEECHES

Alliteration

Repetition

Irony

Euphemism

Hyperbole

Emotive language

Imagery

Similes

Metaphors

Personification

Opposites

Onomatopoeia

**Make sure you are familiar with ALL of these RHETORICAL devices.**

### 3. Make the connections

WHAT DOES THE TEXT SAY ABOUT THE  
**THEME OR CONCEPT** YOU ARE STUDYING?

### REMEMBER....



- 1) WHAT is the text about?
- 2) HOW does it create meaning?
- 3) CONNECT – What does it have in common, or have to say about the **THEME** or **CONCEPT** that is being studied?

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