

Core Value #2

Close and critical reading/analysis is necessary for listening to and questioning texts, arriving at a thoughtful understanding of those texts, and joining the academic and/or public conversations represented by those texts.

Summary



Writers create texts to communicate ideas, and they make specific choices in their writing to achieve their goals. The specific choices they make can involve how they use words, images, sound, editing, or other elements to communicate those ideas.

- As readers, we must analyze these elements to determine the authors' meanings.

Real World Example



If you go to talk about a movie with a friend, you'll probably find yourself trying to critically look at the movie. This means looking at things like its story (did you understand it/was anything confusing?), its relatability (does this remind you of anything you're already familiar with?), or its application (can you use what you learned to inform any future decisions or movies you see?). These are similar important things to think of when reading a text for class.

Further Explanation



Readers engage with texts not only to understand their meanings and listen to other authors but also to question them.

By engaging with multiple authors during the reading and writing processes, and by constructing relationships between those different texts, you will discover and create "conversations" that you can join by working with and adding to those authors' ideas.

Difference Between CV2 & CV4



Core Value 2 is the reader's perspective. It emphasizes researching and analyzing a text as a way to become informed enough about it to be able to join the conversation about it. CV2 incorporates methods used in CV4 in order to properly inform oneself of what they are reading.

Core value 4 is the writer's perspective. The writer evaluates their own thoughts by using strategies from CV2 (researching and analysis). Additionally, they are researching and informing themselves on the content they are writing about in order to present their work confidently. This allows the writer to understand what they are writing about, which will then help the reader to understand what they are reading as well.

Some Ways to Demonstrate Your Understanding

- Using context clues, along with analysis and synthesis, to piece together the meaning or argument of an author's text.
- Identifying key points and relevant information.
- Being able to ask questions that you wish to seek the answer to through further reading.
- Demonstrate your openness to diverse perspectives to grasp the bigger picture.

Self Reflective Questions

- How has reading & writing about sources for the CEA impacted your understanding of or thoughts about the topic?
- How did close reading help you choose which quotes to use in your essay?
- How did close reading help you write transitions that framed or sandwiched the quote within your own words?
- How did the CEA help you become a more critical, skeptical, or thoughtful reader?