



## Steps to Close Reading

1. Number the paragraphs when possible.
2. Understand your purpose for reading.
  - What's the question you have to answer?
  - What ideas are you looking for?
3. Read the text through once to get the gist (main idea.)
4. Ask questions; find answers.
  - Put a question mark near words or phrases you don't understand.
  - Write questions in the margin.
  - Figure out the meanings of unknown words, phrases, or sentences. (Look in a dictionary; ask someone.)
5. Reread and annotate.
  - As you reread, highlight or underline words, phrases, or sentence that relate to your reading purpose.
  - Restate important ideas in your own words in the margins.
6. When possible discuss the text with someone else to clarify your thinking.
7. Transfer your margin notes into your chart, outline, or summary.