**Close Reading Literary Analysis & Presentation (20%)**
**In-class Workshop**
**Instructor: Dr. Paul Cook (Summer I 2017)**

1.) What do you already know about this **text** (poem, short story, or play)? Try to jot down as much as you can, even details that you don't think will be useful. (You never know what might pop up later in the writing process.)

2.) What do you already know about **the author**? Where and when in the author's *oeuvre* does this text appear and (how or why) is that important?

3.) Perform a preliminary **close reading** of the text or at least part of the text. Use the Five Analytical Moves to get you started.

4a.) What do you need to learn about the **text** in order to begin to develop your presentation's **thesis statement**? That is, what general information *outside* the text (i.e., ***context***) do you need to uncover to aid your close reading and analysis of the text?

4b.) Related question: What do you need to learn about **the author**?

4c.) What do you need to learn about the **context** surrounding the **text**? When was it published? What was happening in the world when the text was published? So what? Why might these contextual clues matter to your interpretation?

5.) See if you can sketch out a **working thesis statement**. (Don't worry if your thesis changes several times between now and the presentation—an ever-evolving thesis statement is actually a good sign that you're doing something right, that you're thinking critically about the text and its context.)

CONTEXT (history, culture, nationality, etc.)
research


Author ←----------**TEXT**-------------→ Reader
close reading