

## Five-Part Reading Tool

Prof. Scanlan

CATEGORY OF ANALYSIS	QUESTIONS RAISED BY THE TEXT
1. Character	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>-Does the character change or grow?</li><li>-Does a character act in a certain way?</li><li>-How does gender, ethnicity, or class affect the character?</li><li>-Should readers approve or disapprove of a character's actions?</li></ul>
2. Setting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>-How does time and place matter?</li><li>-What does the description of place symbolize?</li><li>-How does setting affect characters?</li></ul>
3. Plot Structure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>-What are the main turning points in the story?</li><li>-How does a subplot relate to the main plot?</li><li>-What does the ending mean?</li></ul>
4. Point of View (Narration)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>-Who is the narrator?</li><li>-What type of narration is used?</li><li>-Can the narrator be believed/trusted?</li><li>-Whose values are represented in the narration?</li><li>-How are reader's sympathies manipulated?</li></ul>
5. Themes and Symbols and Metaphors	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>-What does the story say about war, economics, love, poverty, etc.?</li><li>-How does the story illuminate a historical or current issue?</li><li>-Is the story about the development of an artist, the change from childhood to adulthood, etc.?</li><li>-Are symbolic images and/or references used, such as water, fire, doves, blood, roses, rain, sunlight, etc.?</li><li>-Can you find comparison of unlike things?</li></ul>