

Example Texts to Use for Demonstration of Close Reading

- All texts should be preread to determine appropriateness for your students and curriculum.
- The texts on this list, with the exception of the books, are available online.
- Texts with stars are particularly relevant across disciplines. With cross-discipline planning, grade-level teams can use such texts to illustrate similarities and differences in the ways in which historians, mathematicians, literary scholars, and scientists evaluate and cite textual evidence.

Short Stories

- "My Lucy Friend Who Smells Like Corn," Sandra Cisneros
- "Salvador Late or Early," Sandra Cisneros
- "Eleven," Sandra Cisneros
- "The Princess and the Pea," Hans Christian Anderson
- "The Leap-Frog," Hans Christian Anderson
- "The Emperor's New Clothes," Hans Christian Anderson
- "Thank You, M'am," Langston Hughes
- "The Kid," Jacob Riis
- "The Flowers," Alice Walker*
- "Seventh Grade," Gary Soto
- "The Gift of the Magi," O. Henry
- "The Storyteller," H. H. Munro
- "I Used to Live Here Once," Jean Rhys
- "The Tell-Tale Heart," Edgar Allan Poe
- "Bestiary," Stephen Graham Jones

Poetry

- "We Real Cool," Gwendolyn Brooks
- "The Slave Auction", Frances E. W. Harper*
- "1(a)," e. e. cummings
- "me up at does," e. e. cummings
- "The Mending Wall," Robert Frost
- "Ten Years Old," Nikki Giovanni
- "I Ask My Mother to Sing," Li-Young Lee
- "Lemon Tree," Jennifer Clement
- "The Whipping," Robert Hayden
- "Abandoned Farmhouse," Ted Kooser
- "Miracles," Walt Whitman
- "Miss Rosie," Lucille Clifton
- "Mother to Son," Langston Hughes
- "I, Too," Langston Hughes*
- "Birdfoot's Grampa," Joseph Bruchac

Drama

- "To Be or Not to Be," soliloquy in *Hamlet*, William Shakespeare
- *The Princess Bride*, William Golding (Battle of Wits Scene)
- *Les Miserables*, Victor Hugo (Toulon Port Scene)
- *The Diary of Anne Frank* play script*
- *The Monsters on Maple Street* play script, Rod Serling

Picture Books

- *Pink and Say*, Patricia Polacco*
- *Show Way*, Jacqueline Woodson*
- *Sweet Clara and the Freedom Quilt*, Deborah Hopkinson*
- *The Butterfly*, Patricia Polacco*
- *Faithful Elephants*, Yukio Tsuchiya*
- *Rose Blanche*, Roberto Innocenti*

Primary Source Historical Documents

- Preamble to the Constitution
- Declaration of Independence
- George Washington's Resignation as Commander in Chief
- "Gettysburg Address"
- Transcript of President Andrew Jackson's Message to Congress "On Indian Removal" (1830)
- Red Cloud, Speech at Cooper Union, New York, 1870
- Chief Joseph, Lincoln Hall Speech, Washington DC, 1879
- Letter from Jackie Robinson to President Dwight D. Eisenhower
- Letter from Jackie Robinson to President John F. Kennedy

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Example Texts to Use for Demonstration of Close Reading

Social Studies/History Texts

Articles and Web-Based Information

- Scholastic News Online
- PBS News Hour
- Teaching Kids News
- Dogo News
- Time for Kids
- The Learning Network, New York Times
- National Geographic Kids: Stories

Books

- *1621: A New Look at Thanksgiving*, Catherine O'Neill Grace and Margaret Bruchac
- *Days of Jubilee: The End of Slavery in the United States*, Patricia and Frederick McKissack*
- *The Great Fire*, Jim Murphy*
- *We Are the Ship: The Story of Negro League Baseball*, Kadir Nelson
- *Charles and Emma: The Darwins' Leap of Faith*, Deborah Heiligman*
- *What the World Eats*, Faith D'Aluisio*

Science, Math, and Technical Texts

Articles and Web-Based Information

- Scholastic Math
- Scholastic News Online
- PBS News Hour
- Teaching Kids News
- National Geographic Kids: Stories
- Dogo News
- *The Why Files: The Science Behind the News*
- *Articles for Kids*, American Chemical Society
- *Get the Math*
- *Student Society for Science*

Books

- *Titanic: Voices from the Disaster*, Deborah Hopkinson*
- *The Building of Manhattan*: Donald Mackay*
- *Cathedral: The Story of Its Construction*, David Macaulay*
- *Once a Wolf: How Wildlife Biologists Fought to Bring Back the Gray Wolf*, Stephen R. Swinburne
- *Mathematics Textbook* (any author)
- *Math Curse*, Jon Scieszka
- *Go Figure! A Totally Cool Book About Numbers*, Johnny Ball
- *The Number Devil*, Hans Magnus Enzensberger
- *Math Trek*, Ivars Peterson and Nancy Henderson
- *Math Trek 2*, Ivars Peterson and Nancy Henderson