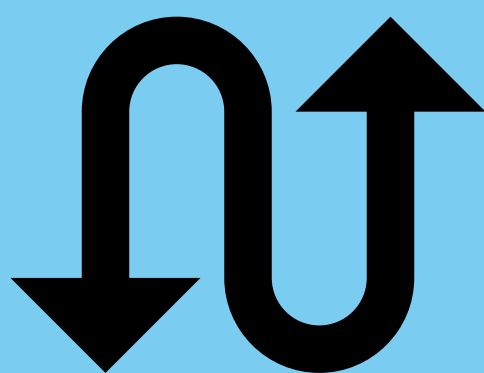# DEVELOPING SKILLED CLOSE READERS

Tools to Support Close Reading

USE SENSITIVITY ANALYSIS

Offer students a key sentence from a text and then a similar sentence with a few important changes. Ask students to observe what's different between the sentences, and then analyze how the differences affect meaning and understanding.

http://teachlikeachampion.com/blog/lost-dust-storm-colleen-driggs-helps-improve-teaching-sensitivity-analysis/

MASTER PARAPHRASING

Ask students to paraphrase—not summarize—a passage so that they understand the complexity of authorial choices. It will help them better understand the themes and nuances of a text, rather than simple plot details.

http://teachlikeachampion.com/blog/excerpt-chapter-two-reading-reconsidered/

EMPLOY TEXT-DEPENDENT QUESTIONS

TDQ's might be either questions to establish meaning or questions to analyze meaning, but they both require an attention to the text that goes beyond generalizations. Find questions that focus on sentence/phrase level, sentence/line, or paragraph/stanza level to practice close reading.

http://teachlikeachampion.com/blog/excerpt-chapter-two-reading-reconsidered/

PAUSE TO EMPHASIZE KEY TEXT MOMENTS

Help students parse meaning in a difficult text by pausing when reading together to ask a question on the sentence or paragraph level that prompts critical reflection from your students.

http://teachlikeachampion.com/blog/preventing-gist-discussion-daily-template-close-reading/

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