Close Reading Strategies

Karen A. McCay

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Introduction

The following resources all explore Close Reading in diverse ways; I love watching videos to learn new concepts, but I'd much rather read an article about a concept I'm reviewing. As you decide how you'd like to review Close Reading for this professional development model, feel free to use the resources, which are most beneficial to you during your work time. When you've taken the time to review and reflect, please write a short reflection back to me to document what you got out of the training--and how I can improve it for both your PLC and other learning groups in the future.

11 Strategies for Close Reading

This article provides practical strategies for improving students' Close Reading skills as well as teachers' use of Close Reading the classroom. It emphasizes some effective practices, which I had not been emphasizing recently, several of which are also recommended specifically by SAT.

Facing History Close Reading Protocol

This article lists the steps to take students through a Close Reading of a primary source and/or seminal historical text and then complete an entire student-centered learning activity, including answering text-dependant questions, creation of a student gallery, which could easily be a National History Day component, and then a student-led discussion. The site also has links to further professional development and resources for instructors.

Students Close-Read FDR's Inaugural Speech

This video depicts an 11th grade US History class completing a Close-Read of FDR's Inaugural Speech in teams. The video is only 9 minutes long and provides not only a good example of using a seminal historical text, but also an example of effective methods we can pull out of our toolbelt before Christmas Break.