

# CRITICAL LITERACY

Critical literacy involves reading critically—thinking about the identity and intent of the writer, and the social and historical context in which the text was written.

As you read, think about the following questions:

- Who is the author?
- Why did the author write this piece?
- Who is the intended audience?
  
- Whose voice is represented?
- Whose voices are missing?
- What issues of power are represented in the piece?
- How are women portrayed in the piece?
  
- What experiences of the author may be guiding his or her writing?
- What does the author hope to communicate to readers of this work? What messages are being sent to the reader?
- How is your interpretation of the text influenced by your knowledge of the period in which it was written?

