



# Critical Reading Checklist- 13 Questions to Help Students Critically Read Media Texts



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## What is critical reading?

Critical reading is "the process of reading that goes beyond just understanding a text. Critical reading involves: carefully considering and evaluating the reading. identifying the reading's strengths and implications. identifying the reading's weaknesses and flaws" (Massey University)



## Critical Reading Checklist

- ✓ 1 What kind of text is it?
- ✓ 2 What genre is it part of? (e.g., advertising, news, song, etc.)
- ✓ 3 Does the text have a status? (e.g., canonical, literary, popular)
- ✓ 4 How is it authored? (e.g., individually, anonymously, collectively)
- ✓ 5 What information is readily available about the author(s)?
- ✓ 6 How does this information help you with the reading and understanding of the text?
- ✓ 7 Whose point of view does the text promote?
- ✓ 8 Whose interests does the text foreground?
- ✓ 9 Does the text deliberately exclude any group of people, beliefs, viewpoints...?
- ✓ 10 Does the text expect you to have some sort of assumed background knowledge to understand it?
- ✓ 11 Is this assumed background knowledge dependent on stereotypical assumptions? If so, what are they?
- ✓ 12 Does your reading position align with the one communicated by the author or not? Why?
- ✓ 13 Which voices, if any, are silenced in the text and why?



## Sources

- 1- <http://owll.massey.ac.nz/study-skills/critical-reading.php>
- 2- Duncan, B. (2005). Media literacy: Essential survival skills for the new millennium. Retrieved from <https://goo.gl/pMgQ2Z>
- 3- Mills. S. (1995). Feminist stylistics. New York, NY: Routledge.