

The Big 5 of textual analysis

You can apply the following questions to any text, both in and out of context.

	Out context	In context
Audience / purpose - Who does the text target? What does the author wish to achieve through the text?		
Content / theme - What is literally 'happening' in the text? What is it about? What are the main ideas of the text?		
Tone / mood - How does the text make you and/or the target audience feel? Describe the atmosphere of the text.		
Stylistic devices - How does the author use language to convey a sentiment or message? What kinds of linguistic tools does he/she employ?		
Structure - How is the text organized, literally (i.e. layout/formatting)? What kinds of structural elements of a particular text type do you see?		