**English 12 Assignment # 3**

**April 27 – May 1**

**Close Reading of Texts**

As we continue to examine various texts, we'll take a look at how to do a **close read**. A close read is exactly that: a close examination of text. It requires a critical observation of word choice, sentence structure, and other aspects of the text.

Readers usually do close reads with a pencil in hand. Write your notes, observations, questions and comments in the margins on the pages using a legend or use sticky notes to help organize your thoughts as you read. Whichever method you use to organize and record your close read notes, it should enable you to revisit the passage and understand why that particular phrase was important to you when you completed your first close read.

Close reads require that you "get inside the author's head." What was his or her intent in writing this piece? Why did he or she choose those specific words, sentences or literary devices? Are they effective? And, as you read, what connections between text-to-text, text-to-world, and text-to-self can you make?

When you do a close read you do more than analyze “what” the author says, but also why, and how. You will form an opinion about whether or not the author’s choices were effective.

**Your Assignment**

1. **Find an article (any article, newspaper, website, etc) that discusses your theme or some issue that relates to your theme.**
2. **Do a “close read” of the piece and record your notes, questions, observations, etc as you read. You will pass this in.**
3. **Do an analysis of the piece based on the instructions in paragraphs 3 and 4 above. This can be presented in any format you choose. Be creative!**