

## What to Ask Yourself While You Read a Novel

What themes repeat themselves in this novel?

What is the author's point? What is he/she trying to say through the story?

How has the character changed during this chapter?

How has the character changed since the start of the novel?

How have changes in the character affected other characters?

What could this object, person, place, etc. symbolize?

How could I identify this author's style? (sentence structure, word choice, punctuation, dialects, etc.)

How could the situation in the novel be an allegory? (a symbolic or parallel situation; an extended metaphor)

Which quotes show character motivation?

Which quotes show character change?

Which quotes show strong emotions?

Which quotes show major turning points for characters?

What motifs repeat in the novel? (light and dark, good and evil, colors, nature and mechanical, etc.)

How do two characters or situations compare? (comparison and contrast essay)

Which character, situation, or action is better than another? (evaluation essay)

How does this relate to my life? (reflective essay)

How does this relate to other novels, movies, songs, short stories, etc.?