**Close Reading Steps for Non-fiction:**

**1. *Number* the paragraphs.**

**2. *Chunk* the text according to *purpose*:**

**who? what? where? when? why? how?**

**3. *Highlight or circle or underline* important facts or data or examples:**

**look for proper nouns of people, places, and dates.**

**4. In the *left margin*: what is the *author saying*?**

**5. In the *right margin:* *author techniques*: examples to show us meaning,**

**statistics, and/or datato prove the author's main idea or thesis.**

**What goes into a non-fiction analysis paragraph?**

**1. First sentence: introduce the topic and include the title and author**

**(if no author use source) of the article.**

**2. Second sentence should be *your thesis statement*- your main idea about the**

**author's *purpose and the techniques* used to explain the article's main idea.**

**3. Third sentence: *Explain* your main idea.**

**4. Next several sentences: two techniques the author uses to explain his main idea**

**or thesis.**

**5. Next several sentences: after each technique, you must use a specific example**

**from the article to show the author's technique. Be sure to use the exact words**

**or lines (USE QUOTES AND GIVE CREDIT: for example: In paragraphs 1,2, 3**

**the author uses a dramatic example of a sunken ship to show the reader that the**

**ancient Greeks truly believed the gods had power over their lives. In**

**paragraph 3, lines 4-6: "To the ancient Greeks the destruction of the ship at**

**sea.....was willed by one of the**

**gods." So for the ancient Greeks, myths were true!**

**6. The last sentence or two should summarize your main idea about this article,**

**proof that you used, and relate it to your life or world.**