SIFT Method
Literary Analysis
Purpose

• Strategy to derive meaning from a text
• Analyze written and visual text
• “Sift” through the parts to comprehend the whole
SIFT

Symbol
Images
Figures of speech
Tone and Theme
SYMBOL

Examine the title for symbolism

How is symbolism used within and throughout the text?
IMAGES

• Identify images and sensory details
• How does the writer “show” rather than “tell”?
• How does image help produce mood and tone?
• Ask yourself:
  • “What do I see, hear, taste, smell, feel?”
  • “What effect is the writer trying to convey?”
Figures of Speech, other Devices and Visual Symbolism / Messages

Analyze figurative language and other devices

- Examples: similes, metaphors, personification

How do they convey effect and meaning?

What about other devices such as:

- Irony
- Allusion
TONE AND THEME

• Close examination of word choice, imagery, and detail reveals the tone.

• To determine theme, you might

• List the ideas that emerge from reading the text

• Think about what life-lesson was learned by the main characters or by you, the reader
YOUR TASK

• Choose One Song* from the Lemonade (E) Visual Album
• Perform a SIFT analysis on the lyrics
• Write out your analysis in your journal.

*You may not use the song Formation for your analysis.