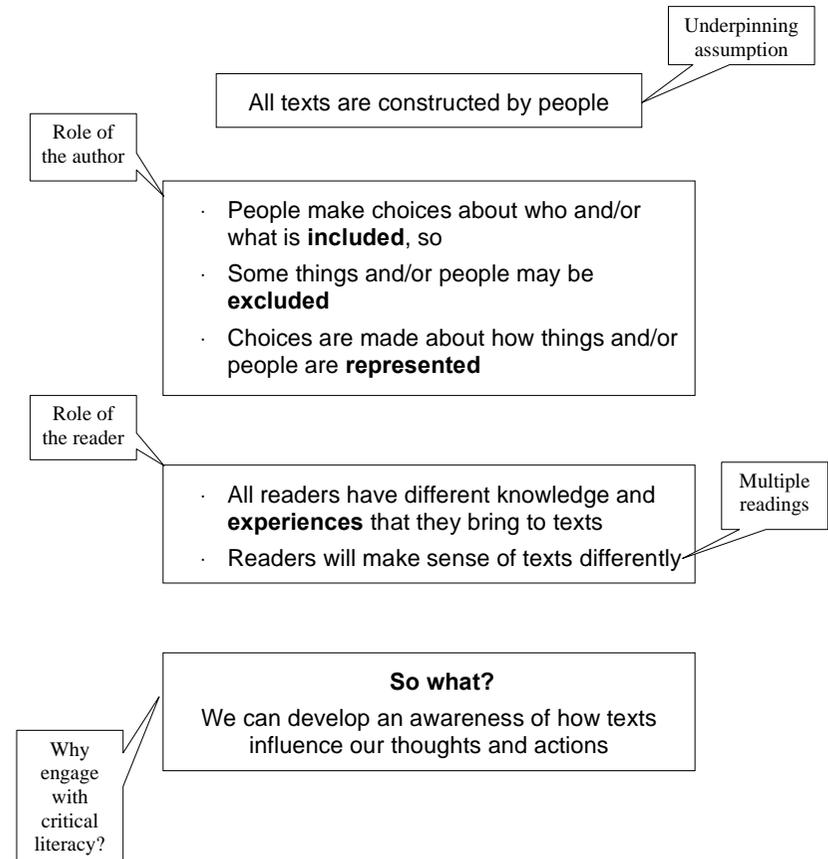


Planning for critical literacy

Text
Lesson focus (poster)
Critical literacy questions to facilitate discussion

Critical Literacy



Susan Sandretto & The Critical Literacy Research Team
susan.sandretto@otago.ac.nz

Critical literacy questions

<http://www.education.tas.gov.au/curriculum/standards/english/english/teachers/critlit>

Textual purpose(s)

1. What is this text about? How do we know?
2. Who would be most likely to read and/or view this text and why?
3. Why are we reading and/or viewing this text?
4. What does the composer of the text want us to know?

Textual structures and features

5. What are the structures and features of the text?
6. What sort of genre does the text belong to?
7. What do the images suggest?
8. What do the words suggest?
9. What kind of language is used in the text?

Construction of characters

10. How are children, teenagers or young adults constructed in this text?
11. How are adults constructed in this text?
12. Why has the composer of the text represented the characters in a particular way?

Gaps and silences

13. Are there "gaps" and "silences" in the text?
14. Who is missing from the text?
15. What has been left out of the text?
16. What questions about itself does the text not raise?

Power and interest

17. In whose interest is the text?

18. Who benefits from the text?
19. Is the text fair?
20. What knowledge does the reader/viewer need to bring to this text in order to understand it?
21. What positions, voices and interests are at play in the text?
22. How is the reader or viewer positioned in relation to the composer of the text?
23. How does the text depict age, gender and/or cultural groups?
24. Whose views are excluded or privileged in the text?
25. Who is allowed to speak? Who is quoted?
26. Why is the text written the way it is?

Whose view: whose reality?

27. What view of the world is the text presenting?
28. What kinds of social realities does the text portray?
29. How does the text construct a version of reality?
30. What is real in the text?
31. How would the text be different if it were told in another time, place or culture?

Interrogating the composer

32. What kind of person, and with what interests and values, composed the text?
33. What view of the world and values does the composer of the text assume that the reader/viewer holds? How do we know?

Multiple meanings

34. What different interpretations of the text are possible?
35. How do contextual factors influence how the text is interpreted?
36. How does the text [encourage you to make] mean[ing]?
37. How else could the text have been written?