

# Text Analysis Guidelines

Living **truthfully** under **imaginary** circumstances

“There is nothing so wonderful or tragic in life that can’t be enhanced through imagination”

To whom are you talking? \_\_\_\_\_

(Use as few words as possible) What is the EMOTIONAL doing going on? (Refer to your crafting verbs as an initial guide.) What do you want? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Why now? What is so urgent? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

So what? (Justify the above answer) \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Where am I specifically? (Describe noise level, temperature, (Am I inside or outside?) are there others around besides the person I am talking to? What are the smells I can smell? What time of year is it? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

This task is emotionally difficult to do because \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Do you honestly believe that **at this point in your life** you can connect to the above crafting? YES / NO / MAYBE

WHY? \_\_\_\_\_

Is your subtext truly connected with the imagery created by the actual text?

Circle one: YES / NO / NOT SURE

Challenge yourself, be creative and let your point of view come out. Create something you are eager to bring to class.

Keep it realistic and believable (for you). This should be something that should bring on some fear/butterflies when you think of it.

Stay away from circumstances that involve any criminal or violent activity. If you are not sure if you have crossed the line, just ask.

Stay away from real life (actual) circumstances. Instead, use “what if” scenarios.

**Above all, be specific and avoid the Jerry Maguire clichés (i.e., “You complete me.”)**

Use the space below to break down your **text into moments** characterized by their **subtext** and corresponding **action**. **Remember: A moment does not need to be a full sentence.**

**Use the chart below to break down your text into moments characterized by their subtext and corresponding action.**

**Remember this is not a Disney movie keep your conversational subtext real. Are these words you use in your everyday conversations?**

**Above all, be specific and avoid clichés and generalizations!**

**EXAMPLE:** the scene is between you and your parents. Your POV (point of view) is that they are on your case about how you should improve on the things you do.

**Your line is:** “I know.”

Here’s how we can break down that moment in **Act I**

TEXT The actual words or phase of the moment (written by the author)	(Possible) SUBTEXT The underlying words or phrase (your interpretation of the text)	(Possible) ACTION(s) The “doing”.	OBJECTIVE What I want at this moment.
“I know.”	“Get off my back!”	To: placate/pacify/ appease/quiet, etc.	Get them to stop harassing you

Same line- but now here’s how we can break down that moment in **Act II**

TEXT The actual words or phase of the moment (written by the author)	(Possible) SUBTEXT The underlying words or phrase (your interpretation of the text)	(Possible) ACTION The “doing”.	OBJECTIVE What I want at this moment.
“I know.”	“I am coming to terms with the fears that have in the past paralyzed me”.	Confessing/declaring /disclosing, etc.	To face my fears/ ask for help/change, etc.



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### WORK YOUR SUBTEXT

Play with your subtext with a partner. Stick to your subtext and have your partner improvise their text based on their reaction to you. **IS THIS SOMETHING YOU WOULD SAY IN REAL LIFE?** If not, make adjustments.

