

## Collaborative Close Reading

### Tech Needs

Platform: BlueJeans, Zoom, and Google Meet

Optional: Google Docs

### Materials

Scan of shared text or

Typed Google Docs copy of passage

### Method (Synchronous)

Here are two simple methods. The first requires the least set up, but the second is more interactive. Both assume that your class is meeting in real time (synchronously) in any of the most common platforms.

#### Scanned PDF Method

- 1) On your computer, open the PDF of the text. Do this prior to class. Ideally, the PDF should be opened in its own window.
- 2) During class in the platform environment (for example, Google Meet), share your screen with your students:
  - a) This differs slightly by platform. But in all cases, choose to share only the window that contains the PDF.
  - b) Here are links to how to do this in the three major platforms: [Bluejeans](#), [Zoom](#), [Meet](#).
- 3) Now that you've shared your screen, the passage that you're focusing on will pop up on all of your students' screens as well.
- 4) Proceed as you would in an in-person class. For discussion tips, see the "how do I hold a discussion?" link.

#### Google Docs Method

- 1) Prior to class, type into a Google Doc the passages that you'd like to close read.
  - a) Not sure how to create a Google Doc? See this [explanation](#). Be sure to give it a title that clearly refers to the class meeting (e.g., "*Oliver Twist* passages for 4.1.20 Session")
  - b) Note that this is the best method if your class is using print materials (e.g., our mutual friend, the paperback), and no scan is available.
- 2) Share this Google Doc with your students.
  - a) Not sure how to share a doc? Here is an [explanation](#).
  - b) When you share, your students will receive an email message indicating that the document has been shared with them. But if you're using Google Classroom or Moodle, consider posting the link to your site.
- 3) During class, invite your students to open the shared Google Doc.

- a) Everyone can do this and still be “in” the online classroom. So they can still hear you and even position the window so that the doc and the class are visible.
- 4) In addition to your usual methods of close reading discussion, you should consider the following for the online environment:
  - a) Text annotation in Google Docs has been a favorite method in our network courses. See the “[Collectively Annotate](#)” explanation under the EH’s suggestions on the Course Continuity page.
  - b) Holding a discussion online can be tricky. See the tips in “How Do I Hold A Whole-Class Discussion?”