



## BEYOND THE ALTAR: CRITICALITY READING QUESTIONS AND NOTES

1 ] Why have you chosen this particular text and author? What do you know about this particular text and author?

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2 ] Is this an author with whom you ordinarily or generally agree with, or disagree with?

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3 ] What about them or their work do you agree or disagree with?

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4 ] Is the language and argument in the text consistent or inconsistent with what you know of the author's position, beliefs, philosophy, ideology, logic, or politics? Can you identify where in the text the author demonstrates consistency, or inconsistency?

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5 ] Examine the rhetoric of the text and analyze your intellectual and emotional response to the rhetoric and how it affects you. Is the author dry and factual, or hyperbolic? If they cite facts, are the facts skewed, exaggerated, altered, or actual? Are there discrepancies or dogwhistles? Is their language clear or is it convoluted? What are some shifts you noticed in your perception or opinion of the text during your examination?

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8 ] How did the author's rhetoric and aesthetic or tone impact your ability to discern the author's influence versus your own thoughts and ideas? Were you easily persuaded, or were you able to maintain objectivity?

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9 ] Were there instances in which you generally agreed or disagreed with the author, but found at times that you either disagreed or agreed with them? Was it a partial agreement/disagreement, or full agreement/disagreement? How did this complicate your response to the reading?

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10] After critically reading the text, how has your relationship to the author or the topic changed? Has it turned you off of the author or the subject completely, or brought you closer to them?

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11] Did this inspire further curiosity to seek other sources on the topic of the reading, or other works by the author?

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12] Any further thoughts and reflections?

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