

Psychoanalytic Lens

- Look for **hidden motives, repressed emotions, or symbolic actions** that reveal what characters really want or fear beneath the surface.
- Notice **objects, images, or dreamlike moments** that may represent deeper psychological meanings
- Examine moments where characters struggle with **guilt, anxiety, identity**.

Marxist Lens

- Look at how characters belong to different **social or economic classes**.
- Notice **who has power**, who doesn't, and how money, work, or property shape their lives.
- Who gets to speak, which perspectives are **privileged**, and which are **marginalized**.

Queer Lens

- Notice how the text present ideas of what is “**normal**” or “**natural**” in terms of **gender and sexuality**.
- Does the text show **identity as flexible, changing, or socially constructed**?
- Whose perspective is missing or marginalised?

Feminist Lens

- Notice **who is silenced**, and what expectations the text sets for different genders.
- How is **power** distributed between characters of different genders?
- Does the text reinforce or challenge systems of **patriarchy, discrimination, or traditional hierarchies**?

New Historicist Lens

- Interplay between **how the text influences cultural ideas and how it is shaped in return** by the social, political, or economic conditions of its era.
- Does it examine **multiple perspectives**, not a single “official” history. Whose stories are highlighted? Whose are missing?

Formalist Lens

- How is the text built; its plot arrangement, imagery, symbols, patterns, contrasts, and **use of literary devices**.
- Examine word choice, tone, rhythm, dialogue, and narrative voice.
- Everything you need should be found **within the text itself**.

Structuralist Lens

- How is **meaning** created?
- Look for **patterns, repeated motifs, binary oppositions**.
- Focus on **layout, punctuation, capitalisation** etc and how these influence the meaning.

Post-Colonial Lens

- Relationships between **colonisers and the colonised**.
- Examine how characters navigate **cultural conflict, hybrid identities, or feelings of displacement**.
- Which perspectives are **centred** and which are **marginalised** or **erased**

Ecocentrist Lens

- Look at **how the text portrays nature**: as a resource, a living force, a victim, or something with intrinsic value.
- Ask what the text suggests about **responsibility toward the planet**.

Reader Response Lens

- Meaning is created through the interaction between the reader and the text. **How does it relate to your life?**
- Focus on the parts that make you **pause, rethink, or connect personally**.

Post-Modern Lens

- Look for **unreliable narrators, contradictions, fragmented storytelling**, or moments where the text openly **challenges** the idea of a stable, knowable **reality**.
- Does the text **break the “rules”** of storytelling?
- Look for **intertextuality** and cultural mixing.

Post-Structuralist Lens

- Focus on differing **interpretations** and notice **contradictions, ambiguities, and gaps** in the text.
- Look for **irony, wordplay**, and places where the text seems to challenge or complicate its own claims.