

Our Fair Lady

Richard Powers Guided Reading

Galatea 2.2 (1995) is a sprawling text full of oft witty references, familiar and unfamiliar figures of speech, spirited attempts at humor, clever remarks involving other literary elements, and thought-provoking observations relevant to both nascent and veteran fiction writers.

For each reading assignment in this unit, students must identify and pursue their thoughts regarding one example of each of the following literary ideas:

- #1 allusions to literature, history, mythology, religion or other references**
- #2 idioms, similes, metaphors or other figures of speech**
- #3 puns or other wordplay, jokes or other efforts at humor**
- #4 examples of other literary elements (including genre, setting, character and characterization, dialogue, style, tone, mood, symbolism, structure, foreshadowing, flashback, alliteration, oxymoron, or paradox)**
- #5 meditations on writing, writers, literature, other kinds of texts, reading, language, or other related ideas**

N.B. There will often be overlap, such as when allusions give rise to meditations on literature or idioms are used to introduce wordplay. The rationale is for readers to address the ideas from the text towards which they gravitate, as a comprehensive or otherwise exhaustive explication of the text is essentially impossible within the limitations of this course.

Students should address what works, what does not work, what could work better with further consideration or revision, etc. Concrete examples or specific suggestions for each are expected.

Please use a "sticky note" to keep track of page numbers and words, phrases, ideas, passages, etc. that seem poignant, distinctive, interesting, problematic, messy, etc. Put each night's sticky note with the ideas addressed in your notebook.

The above elements will be our entrée to addressing together themes, motifs, refrains, and other recurring ideas in the novel. Students will be expected to sit with their workshop groups during class.

Each night, students should look up the definition of a word from the reading that is new in their experience.