**Pre-Writing Strategies for Analytical Writing**

1. *Turn the pages:* 
   1. Return to the text! Spend 10 to 15 minutes flipping through the piece of literature that you are working with and mark pages (using post-it notes or even just slips of paper) where you find compelling quotes, dialogue, and language. Mark down on the note what it is you found, and the page number for future reference.
   2. Now, take a look at each of your notes and see if you cannot find a pattern, or connecting factor between them – most likely you will have marked items that are similar in one way or another to each other!
2. *Make a friend:*
   1. Pick your favorite character from the piece of literature and make a list of qualities you see in them: positive and negative. Also, note any changes you see in the character from the beginning of the text to the end.
   2. Then answer the following:
      1. Could I be friends with this character? Why or why not?
      2. If I were to have a conversation with this character, what would I ask them? How do I think they would respond?
      3. If this character were to live in the real world, what would they do for work? What type of people would they be friends with? Would they have a family? How would they spend their free time?
3. *Visualize it:*
   1. Select an integral scene from the text and sketch it out – do not take too long with the sketch, 10 to 15 minutes at the most. You simply want to create an image on the page for you to look at.
   2. Then, pick two different vantage points to see the scene from – be a fly on the wall – and sketch two more drawings (of the same scene) from each new point of view.
   3. Answer the following:
      1. Do you notice anything different about your drawings?
      2. Does your focus change depending on where you are seeing the scene from? (ex. do you see more of a wall? The back of a person? Where the light hits?, etc.)
      3. Which sketch provides more information about the scene?
      4. If you were to be in the scene, where would you want to be?
4. *Theme Song:*
   1. Either determine a theme for the text, or select a theme from a created list, and use it to create a “theme song” for the piece of literature.
      1. Be sure to use any recurring imagery associated with the selected theme.
   2. Don’t give too much away— try to sell the book! *Ex. Beauty and the Beast*—love is blind.

*This is the story all about bell*

*Who went and got herself*

*Locked up in a cell*

*Trying to save her father*

*Trying to find herself*

*She didn’t even look*

*Before she agreed to the hook.*

*Living with a man*

*Greed turned to a beast*

*She was doomed to live*

*A life with too much grief.*

*But the beast was a man*

*More in his heart*

*Than any could tell*

*And just needed to be loved,*

*To be saved by a bell.*