1. Does the author draw you into the story from the first paragraph? What do they do in that opening? Based on just the first paragraph, what do you think the paper will be about?

2. After reading the whole essay, what do you feel the story is about? What is the story and what is the “significance” of the piece?

3. Does the author prefer to show or tell? Underline any examples of telling you find that you feel would be better off being shown.

4. Put a star in the margins next to what you feel is the most important paragraph in the essay. What makes it important? What can the author do to make this part more interesting?

5. What is the author’s literacy? How have they shown its connection to communication?

6. Does the author use vivid details? Do they use all five senses when telling their story? Are there places in the story you feel could use more detail?

7. How does time work in the essay? How would you organize the structure of the paper?