

Formalist (new criticism):

- Form and meaning (diction, irony, paradox, metaphor, symbol, plot, characterization, and narrative)
- Form fits meaning (part to whole)
- Searches for unity and universal theme

Biographical:

- Uses details of the author's life to find influences

Psychoanalytical:

- Reflects the author's personal psychology
- Characters' emotions and behavior reveal psychological state
- "That's what she said" lines
- Psychological desires and needs of the characters

Historical:

- Analyzing the social and cultural aspects of the text

Marxist:

- Class differences and economic/social forces in literature
- Social order and structure

Structuralism:

- Underlying structural system (archetypal, modal, or narratological)
- Use of archetypes (quests, initiations, scapegoats)

Mythological:

- o Story resembling other stories with plot, characters, setting, or symbols
- o Allusions

Reader-Response:

- How the reader responds to a work
- How the reader's experiences affect interpretation
- The intended audience of the work
- Does re-reading affect interpretation

Deconstructionist (post-structuralist):

- Contradictory meaning in the language of the text
- Sources of disunity

Feminist:

- Women's lives and their portrayal
- Relationships between men and women along with conflicts
- Traditional ideas about women