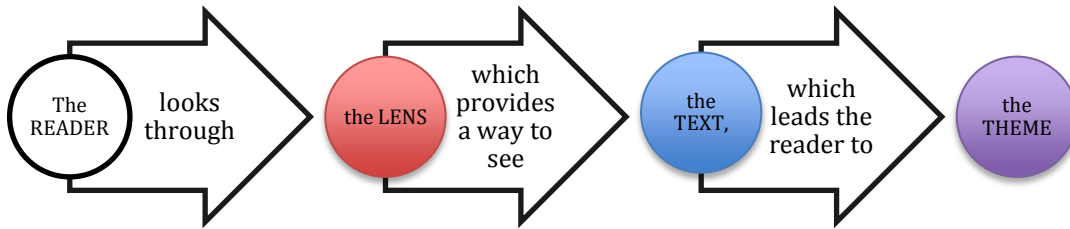


## Using a Critical Lens



## Thesis Statements

In general, your thesis statement will do what it has done throughout the semester: offer an interpretation of the text's meaning. Rather than focusing on how literary elements establish that meaning, however, this paper's thesis statement will focus on what in the text is revealed by the critical lens. *Your thesis will likely use terminology and/or concepts from your research.*

## Steps to Literary Analysis with a Critical Lens:

1. **Identify a passage from the text and perform a close reading.** This includes an introduction to the passage (context), a quote from the text, and some brief commentary on why this passage is significant. Do not bring in any outside sources yet.
2. **Introduce your critical lens and research.** This includes introducing a concept from the reading you've done, the author's name and work, and a quote from that work. Follow with a brief commentary/interpretation of what this work seeks to accomplish.
3. **Apply your lens/research to the text.** This includes using the concepts/terminology from the research in your explanation of the meaning of this passage. How do these concepts help to further your understanding of the text's theme?