



Student Tasks:

- Reflect on their reading using the SOAPStone strategy.
- Complete the graphic organizer with detailed responses.
- Share their analyses with a partner or in small groups to compare insights.

Online ThinkCERCA Modules:

- Complex texts
- Tools for scaffolding reading (focus mode, translation, picture dictionary, online glossary, audio support, syllabication, part of speech, etc.)

SOAPStone

Engaging with SOAPStone to Enhance Textual Analysis

Suggested Time 20-30 Minutes

Strategy

The SOAPStone strategy helps students analyze written texts by focusing on six key elements: Speaker, Occasion, Audience, Purpose, Subject, and Tone. By using a graphic organizer, students can unpack these components to gain a deeper understanding of the author's intent and the potential impact on the audience. This method is applicable across various types of texts, including novels, speeches, poetry, and articles.

Optimal Application Notes:

This strategy is beneficial for improving literary analysis skills, particularly in nonfiction texts. Teachers should model the SOAPStone process with sample texts to guide students in developing their analytical thinking.

Before:

- Choose a text rich in context and meaning, such as a speech or an article.
- Prepare SOAPStone graphic organizers for each student or have them create their own by dividing a piece of paper into six sections for each element.
- Ensure students have access to the text to reference during the activity.

During:

- Distribute the SOAPStone graphic organizers to students after they finish reading.
- Instruct students to fill in each section by answering the following questions:
 - **Speaker:** Who is the author or speaker? What do we know about them?
 - **Occasion:** What is the context of the text? Why was it created?
 - **Audience:** Who is the intended audience? How might they respond?
 - **Purpose:** What is the author's purpose in writing this text?
 - **Subject:** What is the main topic or theme of the text?
 - **Tone:** What is the author's attitude toward the subject? How does the tone influence the reader's perception?
- Encourage students to support their answers with evidence from the text, highlighting the importance of understanding each element.

After:

- Facilitate a class discussion where students share their analyses, focusing on how different elements of SOAPStone contribute to their understanding of the text.

Analyze Poetry: SOAPSTone

The SOAPSTone strategy uses an acronym to help you remember each aspect of text to analyze.

Instructions: Complete the Analyzing Texts Through SOAPSTone activity. Imagine you are the actual speaker or author of each text. Use your voice to savor the sensory details and images. Use the guiding questions below to help you explore each aspect of the text.

Speaker

Consider who the speaker or author is. What basic facts can you describe about them based on what you read?

Occasion

What occasion might have prompted the speaker or author to share these thoughts or ideas?

Audience

Who is the intended audience for the speaker or author's message? With whom are they sharing these thoughts?

Purpose

Why might the speaker or author be sharing these ideas? What value do they believe the audience will gain from this text?

Subject

While the literal subject of the text is what is being described, what might its metaphorical meaning be? What other themes or ideas might the speaker or author be exploring?

Tone

As you consider the text, what tone or attitude toward the subject do you imagine the speaker or author using at different points? How does the tone change throughout the text? What does that change in tone sound like?

Analyze Text: SOAPSTone

Exploring Author's Intent and Audience Response

Instructions: Using the SOAPSTone strategy, read the text out loud at least twice. As you read, record your evidence for each component of SOAPSTone. Afterward, discuss your findings with your peers to deepen your understanding of the text.

What are you exploring?	Text/Title	Text/Title
Speaker		
Occasion		
Audience		
Purpose		
Subject		
Tone		