**Close Reading**

**General Preparation Guide for Teachers**

1. **Select a text or excerpt that is sufficiently complex and worthy of sustained attention. Appropriate materials will be challenging and contain new vocabulary, but will hold the interest of the students. Science and social studies related materials will often offer appropriate complexity. Look for short stories and poetry that may offer a good balance of complexity and interest. Students must be challenged if they are to grow. If students are able to read a passage once and gain most of the information, it is not worthy of a close read. Start off with shorter passages and continue to increase the length of the passages.**
2. **In preparation, read and reread the text and create a sequence of text dependent questions and tasks. Also, identify pivotal vocabulary.Develop questions with vocabulary and phrasing typically found on the state ELA test. This way you will automatically be building in test prep along with the Close Reading strategies.**
3. **Carve out several days for the Close Reading activity and walk students through the multi-step process. Model the process multiple times. Students will become more independent with the process over time.**