**Prompts for critical reading**

1. Read to get basic comprehension

* In what context is the article/chapter written?
* What are the key concepts or ideas?
* Identify what is argued and how it is argued for.
* Identify the methodology used (e.g. literary sources, theory, surveys, statistical data, historical evidence, etc.)
* How is the text ordered? What are the main sections?

1. Read critically

* Test the reliability of the evidence presented.
* Are there any limitations in the evidence (e.g. too broad, too narrow, etc.)?
* Does the evidence strongly support what is being argued for?
* Could better or more evidence be provided?
* Are there any assumptions made that are not argued for?
* What might an opposing argument be? Would the argument in the reading still be strong if it faced this opposition?
* Is there any bias? (Who wrote the article? What interests do the authors have in the subject area?).

1. Construct a response

* Make brief notes as you read
* Highlight the areas of concern you raise
* Make a mindmap or concept map to ‘see the big picture’.
* Write a draft paragraph that expresses your overall view of the reading.