You may have to read them a few times, or go back and re-read sections. Try to keep your end goal in mind while reading and make notes of parts and sections that you feel might aid in making your connections.

**You will also need to locate two criticisms/reviews per work you have chosen. The criticisms will help you evaluate the work. Reading someone else's views on a subject may bring things to your attention that you did not notice before and may shed some light on things you may not have understood. They will also be useful when writing your research paper because you will have to defend your view/opinion/argument/thesis etc.

<u>When analyzing your literature you want to look for the following:</u>

- Consistent themes, topics, and/or subjects
- Literary devices
    - Rhyme
        - Internal or end? Or both?
    - Meter
        - Is there a meter (i.e. Iambic Pentameter) if so what is it?
    - Alliteration
    - Assonance
    - Personification
    - Apostrophe
    - Allusion
        - What is the poet making an allusion to?
    - Symbolism
        - What is being symbolized?
    - Simile
    - Metaphor
    - Imagery
        - What is the metaphor? What does it mean?
- Literary elements (setting, character, plot etc.
    - ETC…. There are hundreds, and your criticisms will highlight some of the devices in the text. You should also consult the appendix in the back of your text book for terms and definitions to see if you can locate your own.

Next you should read through again for comprehension so that you may make your comparisons. What connections can you make between the following:

- The poet and the text
- The text and the era it was written in
- The text and today
- The text and/or poet and you

Example: Keat's poem Ode on a Grecian Urn: *Some* things I would include in my analysis would be:

Possible **themes**: preservation of art, preservation of time, forbidden love, eternal life, appreciation of love/life

Imagery: uses the concept of pictures on an urn to convey his themes.

Alliteration- repetition of consonant sounds

"Thou fo**s**ter-child of **s**ilen**c**e and **s**low time"

Assonance –repetition of vowel sounds

"To what gr**ee**n alter, O myst**e**r**i**ous pr**ie**st,"

Rhyme is ABABCDEDCE

Meter: Iambic Pentameter.

Apostrophe- he is talking to the image on the urn as if she were a real person, not an image on a piece of art.

Connections between Keats, the text and the Present:

Keats is looking at an urn and is memorized by what he sees on this urn and what the urn is telling him in the form of a story.

This poem was written as industry began to emerge. People of the Neoclassical age focused on the classics, art, sculpture, ancient Greece and Rome, etc, but now with life becoming busier people are looking less to the classics and focusing on their lives and what they need to do to survive. Art along with nature suffers and becomes ignored. Keats is upset by this because everyone should still have moments throughout their day where they can stop and appreciate a piece of art or a piece of nature the way it should be appreciated.

Today, I feel society still focuses on what needs to be done in their daily lives and forgets to acknowledge classical things such as art, theatre, nature, literature. We are in a world where we need to work to survive and if we do not work, we do not have money and therefore we cannot survive. Society as a whole makes less time to go see a Broadway show or travel to a historically valuable place and learn, or sit down on the sofa for a few hours and pick up a piece of Classic Literature. We just don't have time. So, I feel that Keats' concerns are still concerns we have today. The arts are suffering because people are not spending money to see the shows and support their existence. How many people get to travel to Italy and Germany to study like the poets in the neoclassical period and early Romantics did, when simply taking a vacation to the beach can be a bane!

Keats took the time to stop and appreciate the things in life that were being forgotten. He lived a relatively worry-free life and wanted others to slow down their pace a little to do the

same. He found out he had Tuberculosis and ended up dying a very painful death at the age of 26. He valued everything he had in life and seized every opportunity. Keats took his illness and instead of letting it become an obstacle he allowed it to motivate him and taught him to appreciate life more. I have overcome adversities in my life and instead of letting them get in my way and become obstacles, I let them make me stronger, and along the way I have learned to appreciate and make time for the things in life we don't have to work hard for. I read classic literature. I study history. I spend hours in an art museum staring at paintings and sculptures. I explore other cultures, taste their food, and talk to their people. I still have my career, but work is not all life is about. Keats knew that, and I know that.

The connections are not something you will find on the internet.

You may find some connections in your sources, but you will have to think about the literature and the times and make your own correlations.

Treat your text like an onion. Let each layer show you something new. Take each idea and think about it. Eventually you will get to the center of the onion, which is the sweetest part!