THREE CLOSE READS

Name: Date:

Remember that in Big History you will do what we call "close reads" of every article you encounter in the course. It won't be long before you get the hang of how to do each close read, but while you are still getting used to them, here's a quick guide.

Directions: Before you read, look at what you should "**Pay Attention to...**" Then consider the "**Questions to ask**" in relation to what you should pay attention to while you read. In the "summarizing" column, answer the questions. Below the table synthesize all of that information into a sentence or two.

Reading 1: Capturing Gist

This reading is more of a skim—it should help you get the general idea of the reading.

Pay attention to ...	Questions to ask	Summarizing
Title	What is this article going to be about?	
Headings	Now that you know a little more about the article, what do you think it's about?	
Resource quality	Is this a legitimate source? A primary document? A research report? What does this tell you about the article?	

Close Read 1 Synthesis:

Name: Date:

Reading 2: Informational

This is probably the type of read that's most familiar to you. You will be reading for information that will help you understand the article and pull out important information from it.

Pay attention to ...	Questions to ask	Summarizing
Vocabulary	Are there words you don't understand? If so, look them up!	
Annotation	What is each paragraph about? Write this on your reading, and do an overall summary in this table.	
Retell and rank	What are the key points from the article? What is most important and least important?	

Close Read 2 Synthesis:

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Reading 3: Thinking Bigger

The third reading is really about understanding why this reading matters, and how it relates to Big History.

Pay attention to ...	Questions to ask	Summarizing
Comprehension	What have you learned from this article? What more do you need to know?	
Analysis	How did you reach your conclusions? Did this process make sense?	
Synthesis	How does this article relate to your overall understanding of Big History? How does it relate to you or the world around you?	
Evaluation	What did you think about this article? Is it interesting? Is it helpful? Is it important to understanding what you are currently studying in Big history.	

Close Read 3 Synthesis: