AP English Language and Composition Brassil

Guidelines for Reading a Text . What is your response to the author’s text (essay, speech, public statement, letter, etc.)?

1. *What questions do you have for the author?*
2. *What did you find in the text that surprised, pleased, puzzled or annoyed you?*
3. *Did the text or portions of it remind you of an experience you've had or heard / read about? What were the  experiences? Did your experiences reinforce or contradict the message of the text?*

II. What is the **purpose (aim** or **intent)** behind the author's **message**?

1. *What goal did the author have when she/he fashioned this text? How do you know?*
2. *What language features or sentences in the piece reveal the author's goals? (see IV.)*
3. *How did you respond to the author's message and purpose?*
4. *What message would you convey if you had a similar purpose? Why?*

III. What is the **audience** for what the **author** has to convey?

1. *What sentences, ideas, or other features help you identify the nature and character of the intended audience?*
2. *How are you like / unlike the intended audience for the text?*

IV. What strategies does the author use in order to convey his or her thinking?

1. *How does the author catch and hold (“engage”) audience attention?*
2. *How does the author establish, or perhaps vary, the tone of the text?*
3. *What are some of the effects the author achieves with words and language? How do these effects help  communicate important ideas?*
4. *What has the writer said and done using language? What particular strategies (analogy, figurative  language, vivid description, powerful diction) do you see at work in the text?*
5. *What moves involving language features allow the author to better convey his or her message?*