Questioning the Author

Purpose:

To make students wary of the possibility of a fallible author; to allow students to examine a text not just for content, but for how the text was written.

Procedure:

- 1. Have students read one to two paragraphs of text.
- 2. Ask them to answer the following questions:
 - What is the author trying to tell you?
 - Why is the author telling you that?
 - Does the author say it clearly?
 - How could the author have said things more clearly?
 - What would you say instead?
- 3. Discuss the students' responses.

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