

In this assignment you will practice your summary and research skills by completing a Context Square for one of our course texts.

You may write about Achebe's "Dead Man's Path," Brontë's *Jane Eyre*, Kincaid's "Girl," Lapcharoensap's "Farang's," Shamsie's *Burnt Shadows*, Cisneros's "Barbie-Q," or Rhys' *Wide Sargasso Sea*.

You may find the Context Square chart too difficult a format to enter your answers and so you may be creative with how you present your information. Your answers must, however, be typed and you must write in complete sentences. Your information must be properly cited with in-text citations AND either a "Works Cited" list or a "Works Cited and Consulted" list.

You will need to research the author in order to complete the first row of the Context Square (labeled "Of Production"). You will need to research the text in order to complete the second row (labeled "Of Reception"). You may use secondary sources and your own knowledge in order to complete the third row (labeled "Of Today").

Below are some possible secondary sources. You are not limited to these sources. You may NOT use Wikipedia.

BBC Timelines (Google search "BBC Timeline" and the name of a specific country)

British Council's Literature website: <http://literature.britishcouncil.org/writers>

Encyclopædia Britannica (<http://www.britannica.com/>)

Oxford Dictionary of National Biography (<http://www.oxforddnb.com/>)

Contexts	History	Geography	Identity	Literary
Of Production (Author)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * When was the author writing? * What historical events influenced the writing? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Where was the author writing? * Where was the author writing about? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Who was the author? * Who was the author writing about? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * What literature and conventions influenced the author? * What kinds of literature were contemporary with the author?
Of Reception (Audience through time)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * What is the history of the criticism of the text? * How have different cultural assumptions influenced the reading of the text? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Where has the text been read? * How have place and space influenced the reception of the text? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Who has read the text? * How have different theories of identity influenced the reading of the text? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * How has the text influenced later authors? * How have changing literary tastes influenced the reception of the text?
Of Today (Audiences today)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * How does the current historical moment inform the interpretation of the text? * How does your knowledge of history influence your reading? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Where are people reading the text now? * Where are you reading the text? * How does your knowledge of geography influence your reading? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Who is reading the text now? * How does your identity and knowledge of other identities influence your interpretation of the text? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * What is the current literary reputation of the author and text? * How does your knowledge of literature influence your reading of the text?