**Definition:** Postcolonialism is a method of literary analysis that usually centers around the perspective of the colonized, who are the ultimate victims of colonization. Postcolonialism could also be used to refer to the aftermath of imperialism in addition to colonialism.

**Key contributors:** Frantz Fanon, Edward Said, Homi K. Bhabha

**Historical Context**

* + British disengagement from its 2nd
* empire
* Decolonization movements in Africa
* Indigenous struggles

**Prompts for Analysis:**

-How does the text present the impact of colonialism?

-What political problems are revealed about decolonization?

-What is the author’s attitude towards the canon?

-How does the text inform the audience about the economic impacts of colonial powers?

**Key Terms:**

**Othering**

**Exotic other** – fascination with the inherent dignity and beauty of the primitive / underdeveloped other

**Demonic other** – represented as inferior, negative savage and evil.

**Diaspora literature** – the voluntary or enforced migration of people from their native homelands

**Hybrid** – migrants trying to combine the culture of origin with host country, without abandoning either.

**Double Consciousness** – psychological challenge of “always looking at one’s self through the eyes”

**Subaltern** – population that is geographically, socially or politically outside of the hierarchy structure.

**Western literary Canon** - the collection of classical pieces such as literature or works of art

**Cross-cultural interactions** – Adopt, Adapt and Adept

**Sample Analysis – Young Goodman Brown**

* The setting is in a **Christian town** and a **forest**
  + Forests symbolizes darkness because sunlight cannot pass through it.
* The names symbolize Christianity, and how it possible affected their culture.
  + Young **Good**man Brown, **Faith, Good**y Cloyse, **Deacon** Gookin
    - Deacons are spiritual elders from a church
* Historical Context: Transposition of Christianity and Salem with trials

**Sample Analysis – The Danger of a single story**

* English is one of Nigeria’s five official languages
* Literature focuses on perspective and experiences of European people
* References and allusions in literature are made only to European culture
* Lack of identification with characters in literature (white characters)
* British influence remains permanent
* Colonization left African nations in poverty
* Colonialism also affected people's opinions about African countries

**Sample Analysis – Die Reise des Leben** (https://youtu.be/1ItT0mxOtnk)

* The man represents the colonized, and other people were the colonizers
* Becomes mad due to pressure from society
* LIVE AND BE FREE – colonizers hold authority over colonized, colonizers wants freedom.