Assumptions;

1. Meaning is made by binary oppositions, but one item is unavoidably favored (or privileged) over the other
2. This hierarchy is probably arbitrary and can be exposed and revrsed
3. The text’s oppositions, gaps, spaces, and absences that defeat closure and determinate meaning. All reading is meaning

Strategies

1. Identify the oppositions in the text. Determine which member appears to be favored, and look for evidence that contradicts that favoring.
2. Identify what appears central to the text and what appears to be marginal and excluded.
3. Expose the text’s interdertiminacy. Whereas formalism assumes that should red a literary work closely as if it made sense, deconstruction assumes the opposite: that if you read closely enough, the text will fail to make sense – or at least it will contradict itself.