

## Critical Theory Technique to Interpreting Tarot Cards

<b>Traditional Literary</b>	Historical context		Artist's intentions
	Biography of the deck creator		Expert opinion (tarot books)
<b>Formalist/ Structuralist</b>	What's contained within the four corners of the card	Close reading of the imagery (storytelling)	Structure and layout of card imagery (expressions, colors, directionality)
<b>Post-Structuralist</b>	Go beyond the four corners of the card to derive meaning	Metaphysical correspondences (astrology, Kabbalah, Hermeticism, etc.)	Reader response factor (how a specific reader reacts to the card imagery)
<b>Marxist</b>	Class conflicts or conditions portrayed		Understand the bargained-for exchange
	Socioeconomic distinctions in the card imagery		Economic system or ideology expressed in the card imagery
<b>Cultural Materialist</b>	Interpreting the card through the present-day zeitgeist		
	Relevance of the tarot archetype or archetypal constellation in real-time; reading the card imagery as a metaphor for today's culture and society		
<b>Psychic</b>	Telepathy	Clairsentience	Clarcognizance
	Clairvoyance	Clairaudience	Preternatural source