The Basics

What? A mnemonic device used to analyze visual and graphic texts (**O**verview, **P**arts, **T**itle, **I**nterrelationships, **C**onclusion)

When? As students engage with visual and graphic text

Why? Focuses student thinking on a visual text and prepares students to discuss and write about a visual text

Student Outcomes

This strategy helps students refine their understanding of texts to meet reading expectations, engage in group conversations to meet speaking and listening expectations, and prepare for writing about visual texts.

How to Implement

1. Choose a visual or graphic text, decides how the text will be viewed or read by the students (independently, small group, whole group).
2. Creates a writing prompt or series of discussion questions pertaining to the visual text.
3. Establish OPTIC guidelines for students. See "Resources for Additional Information" for a sample.
4. Have students follow the OPTIC guidelines as they analyze the visual text.
5. After students have viewed the text, introduce the writing prompt or begin a discussion of the text.

Resources for Additional Information

- Outline of OPTIC guidelines from Lighthouse Initiative for Texas Classrooms
- Handout for the OPTIC strategy
- Slideshow presentation that describes each step of the strategy in depth
- Examples of how to use in lessons: Grades 3-5, Grades 6-8, Grades 9-12