**Literary Theories**

Concept diagram

* Author writes text
* Reader reads the text
* Authors tries to deliver a message to the read

Author’s relationship to the universe:

* Author writes in a specific time, place, cultural context, etc...
	+ Eg. Shakespeare 🡪 Elizabethan England

Reader’s relationship to the universe:

* Reader reads from a specific time, place, cultural context, etc

Text’s relationship to the universe:

* As an imitation of the “real world”
* Text exists in a universe of other texts 🡪 therefore influenced by other writings



Easier - Literary criticism is a view or opinion on what a particular written work means. It is about the meanings that a reader finds in an author's literature.

Harder - Literary criticism is an attempt to evaluate and understand the creative writing; the literature of an author. Literature includes plays, essays, novels, poetry, and short stories. Literary criticism is a description, analysis, evaluation, or interpretation of a particular literary work or an author's writings as a whole. Literary criticism is usually expressed in the form of a critical essay. In-depth book reviews are also sometimes viewed as literary criticism.