* **Identify the author’s claims—what is the author claiming to be true about your generation?**
* **Identify the evidence that the author uses to support his various claims**
* **Connect/question/make predictions about your generation’s future based on the author’s claims**
* **Circle unfamiliar vocab and get clarification**
* **Respond in your own voice—what points are interesting to you?**
* **At the end, evaluate the author’s claims—do you agree or disagree with what he is saying about your generation? Why? Try and support your argument with observations and personal experience.**

**In this poem “In Memoriam”, romantic poet Alfred Lord Tennyson expresses his view that loss is an unavoidable consequence of love. Yet, rather than shunning love because of this, Tennyson resolves to accept both the experience of love and pain that inevitably comes with it. As he writes in his often quoted passage, “Tis better to have loved and lost than never to have loved at all.”**

**Adapted from James R. Kincaid, Tennyson’s Major Poems**

**Assignment: Are people unwise to pursue love even when they know it will cause them pain? Plan and write an essay in which you develop your points of view on this issue. Support your position with reasoning and examples taken from the reading, studies, experience, or observations.**