

# CLOSE READERS

Created by Marie-Camille LePage

## STEP # 1

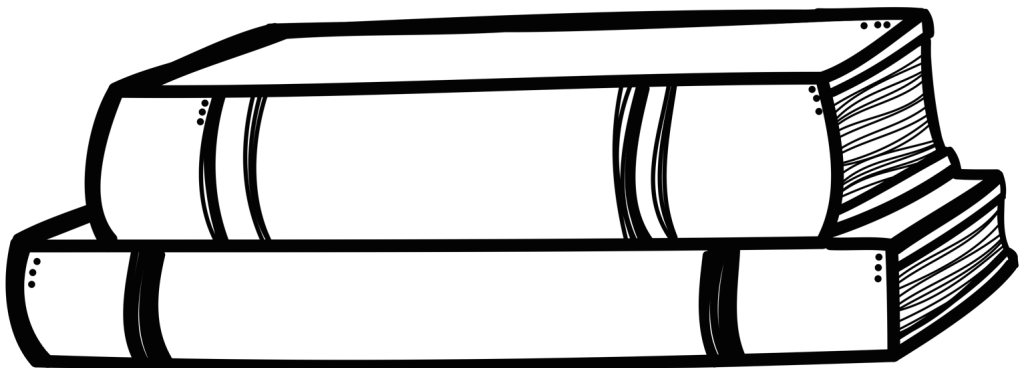
Read the first time to get the gist of what the text is about.

## STEP # 2

Read the second time slowly and annotate the text by circling unfamiliar or unknown words.

## STEP # 3

Discuss with a partner. Try to understand and interpret the difficult words.



# Mean BY Taylor Swift

You, with your words like knives  
And swords and weapons that you use against me,  
You, have knocked me off my feet again,  
Got me feeling like I'm nothing.

You, with your voice like nails on a chalkboard  
Calling me out when I'm wounded.

You, pickin' on the weaker man.

Well you can take me down,

With just one single blow.

But you don't know, what you don't know,

Someday, I'll be living in a big old city,

And all you're ever gonna be is mean.

Someday, I'll be big enough so you can't hit me,

And all you're ever gonna be is mean.

Why you gotta be so mean?

You, with your switching sides,

And your walk by lies and your humiliation

You, have pointed out my flaws again,

As if I don't already see them.

I walk with my head down,

Trying to block you out cause I'll never impress you

I just wanna feel okay again.

I bet you got pushed around,  
Somebody made you cold,  
But the cycle ends right now,  
You can't lead me down that road,  
You don't know, what you don't know

Someday, I'll be, living in a big old city,  
And all you're ever gonna be is mean.  
Someday, I'll be big enough so you can't hit me,  
And all you're ever gonna be is mean.

Why you gotta be so mean?  
And I can see you years from now in a bar,  
Talking over a football game,  
With that same big loud opinion but,  
Nobody's listening,  
Washed up and ranting about the same old bitter things,  
Drunk and grumbling on about how I can't sing.

But all you are is mean,  
All you are is mean.  
And a liar, and pathetic, and alone in life,  
And mean, and mean, and mean, and mean

But someday, I'll be, living in a big old city,  
And all you're ever gonna be is mean. Yeah,  
Someday, I'll be big enough so you can't hit me,  
And all you're ever gonna be is mean.

Why you gotta be so ?  
Someday, I'll be, living in a big old city,  
And all you're ever gonna be is mean. Yeah,  
Someday, I'll be big enough so you can't hit me,  
And all you're ever gonna be is mean.

# Analyze

Discuss with a partner. Try to understand and interpret the difficult words.

Word

Interpret

Knock me off

Wounded

Weaker

One single blow

Flaws

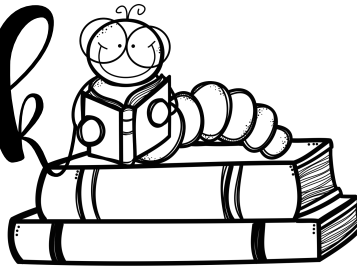
Ranting

Grumbling

I'll be big enough you can't hit me



# Think



## QUESTION #1

What is the P.O.V. of this song? Justify your answer.

## QUESTION #2

Find three metaphors in the song.

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

## QUESTION #3

Find two hyperboles in the song.

- 1.
- 2.

## QUESTION #4

Find 5 words that represent the idea of "being mean" in the song.

## QUESTION #5

Find an alliteration in the song.

- 1.

## QUESTION #6

Do you think this song has a positive or negative message?

Justify your answer with evidence from the song.

- 1.
- 2.