Close Reading Questions Paragraph 1:

What is important about the verses written by the painter in sentence 1?

From evidence in this paragraph, what do you think Emerson means by “original”?

In sentences 2 and 3 how does Emerson suggest we should read an “original” work?

In telling us how to read an original work, what do you think Emerson is telling us about reading his work?

How does Emerson define genius?

Considering this definition of genius, what does Emerson mean when he says that “the inmost in due time becomes the outmost”?

Why, according to Emerson, do we value Moses, Plato, and Milton?

Thus far Emerson has said that we should seek truth by looking into our own hearts and that we, like such great thinkers as Moses, Plato, and Milton, should ignore what we find in books and in the learning of the past. What implications does his advice hold for education?

Based on your reading of paragraph 1, how does Emerson define individualism? Support your answer with reference to specific sentences.