

ACTIVE READING: Non-fiction/Academic Annotation Guide

(use with articles, academic texts, text books,
speeches, interviews, letters)

Highlight, underline or mark with a post-it Search for main ideas and discussion points

- Search for important passages, and words.
- Create your own system for marking what is important, interesting, quotable, questionable, and so forth.

NEW VOCABULARY

- Identify and define new vocabulary words

KEY FACTS, MAIN IDEAS, AND EVIDENCE

- While you read, use marginalia—
marginal notes—to mark key material.
Check marks
question marks
stars
arrows
brackets
written words and phrases.

ASSERTIONS AND EVIDENCE

- Identify the main assertion in each paragraph
- Identify key evidence and research used to support these assertions.



Write in margins or on post-its

- Definitions
- Questions
- Interpretations/translations
- Summaries
- Personal reactions
- Predictions
- Connections
- Comments
- Comments