

# **Annotating Text in the Social Studies Classroom**

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**World History**

# Annotations: An Overview

## “Good Reading Makes Good Writing”

- **Annotate: taking notes as you read**
- **There’s no “right” way**
- **General principles for good annotating to keep in mind**
  - **Write notes about the text in the margins**
  - **Annotating is not just summarizing. Ask questions and write comments**
  - **Taking time as you read will save you time and anxiety later as you discuss & write about the text**

# What does “annotation” look like?

*Annotate means taking notes as you read*

1. Number the paragraphs.

2. Circle academic vocabulary words AND words you don't know.

- Look up words you don't know and write a quick definition or synonym in the margin, something you understand.
- If it's an academic vocab word (social studies word that you must know for that chapter), label it with “AV”

3. Highlight the main idea of each paragraph.

4. Make notes in the margin – opinions, predictions, connections, questions, reflections, reactions, or comments.

- Have a conversation with the text, interact with it.

# Helpful Tips

☐ Read with a pen or pencil in hand.

✓ Helps you focus and stay alert.

☐ Look for patterns

✓ What ideas do you see repeated?

☐ Have a **CONVERSATION** with the text. Talk back to it.

✓ Take your time.

✓ Ask questions while you read.

➤ Good readers do not zip along without stopping to monitor their comprehension. They stop to think when they don't understand.

➤ Write down questions you have or things you don't understand.

✓ Your annotations must include comments to prove that you were thinking while you were reading.