**WHILE YOU READ: ANNOTATE TEXT WITH POST-ITS (Extra Credit)**

You should have a pencil in hand so that you can "annotate" your text. As the word suggests, you "take notes" in your book. Unlike "highlighting," which is a passive activity, the process of annotating text helps you to stay focused and involved with your book. You'll find that the process of taking notes as you read will help you to concentrate better. It will also help you to monitor and improve your comprehension.

Here are some ideas to get you going…

* Ask questions—Are you confused about something? Write the question down. You might find the answer later, or you might get an opportunity to ask it to your classmates or teacher.
* React to what you read—maybe you just read something that made you mad, startled you, or brought you to tears. Write down your reaction to the text so you remember it later.
* Give an opinion—Do you like or dislike an idea? Do you think the author is too boring? Record this opinion next to the passage that inspired it.
* Locate important passages—Is there a quote that you think is important or thoughtful? Is there an idea you think might be worth remembering? Is there a ‘big idea’ that is at the foundation of the article? These are important to locate, as they are what you might quote in your investigation or written essay later.
* Make connections—maybe something you read reminds you of an experience you’ve had or parallels a part of your life; record these connections and they will help you find meaning and relevancy in what you read.
* Comment on the actions or development of characters
* Feel free to draw pictures when a visual connection is appropriate

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