

# Reading Annotation Handout

Grades 9-12

It can be overwhelming to try and grasp the main points of an article, short story, or book while you are reading. However, by learning how to annotate sources you will have a helpful blueprint for how to sort out the main points and key evidence in the text or video. Annotation is a useful skill to practice because it helps with knowledge comprehension and retention. Annotating also improves student confidence with note-taking and familiarity with important concepts. Use this handout to practice building your note taking skills in a low-stakes ungraded assignment.

Answer the following questions during and after reading.

1. What is the genre of the piece you are reading? Who is the author? What is the topic?

**Nonfiction. William Willard, a researcher. The topic is the Indian relocation policies of the termination era.**

2. What are some of the key terms from the article/book/video? What terms are they repeating or defining? What do those terms mean in the context of the larger argument?

**Termination, relocation. They are writing about the 1950s and how Native people lost Indian status and were encouraged to move to cities to work. For example, Willard cites all of the different social clubs and religious organizations that served Native peoples who had arrived in Oakland as part of relocation (pg 32).**

3. What is the main argument and evidence that the author is presenting?

**The author says the laws have a lot of negative impacts and some unexpected good ones but that the government intended to get rid of Indians. The evidence is the laws and interviews with Native people who were relocated.**

4. Are you convinced by the author's argument? What other things have you read that remind you of the piece you are reading/watching?

**I agree with the author. It reminded me of the video we watched about relocation.**

5. What did you learn from this article/story/book/video? Why is what you learned important?

**I learned that the U.S. shifts in relation to Indian policy in order to reassert its own territorial sovereignty. I learned that the U.S. has been dispossessing Native peoples through the law, assimilation, and inclusion into citizenship only in order to erase Indigenous sovereignty.**