**Annotating Non-fiction**

**Pre-reading**

1. **Circle the title** and consider what it means by asking a question about the title.
2. Skim through t he piece and **turn all subheadings into questions.**
3. **Circle all unusual text features:** bullets, subheadings, pictures, graphics, diagrams, etc.
4. **Read any post-**reading questions
5. **Identify the topic**/subject and **WRITE** anything you **already know** about the topic and **anything** you **want to know** about the topic.

**During reading**

1. Read everything **without marking the text.**
2. Read again and **mark the text.**
3. **Identify** and **underline** the **thesis** (if this document has one)
4. **Highlight** any:

* **Parallel structure**
* **Repetition**
* **Restatement**
* **Rhetorical Questions**

1. **Underline signal/cue words** that help to identify the text structure:

* **Cause and Effect**
* **Compare and Contrast**
* **Chronological**
* **Problem Solution**

1. **Answer questions** created from any subheadings (#3 –Pre-reading)
2. Put **parentheses around vocabulary.** Use a dictionary. Use context. Define.
3. **Write in the margins:**

* **Summary of each paragraph**
* **Predictions of what might be coming**
* **Formulate opinions** (agree or disagree with the author)
* **Make connections to anything:** other texts, dates, opinions, people, etc.
* **Identify and analyze the author’s:**

1. **Point of View**
2. **Tone** (attitude toward subject)
3. **Diction** (style of speaking and word choice)
4. **Syntax** (sentences and their patterns)

**After reading**

1. Complete this statement: **The author’s purpose for writing this is….”**
2. If you can’t answer author’s purpose questions, go back and reread the introduction and conclusion.
3. Go **back to the title** and **answer your question** and **reflect** on the **significance of the title**.