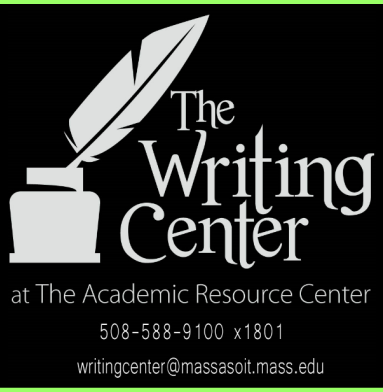
Exploring and Planning

Active Reading



Marking up the margins of text while you read, asking questions, and making connections, can help you to better understand, remember and use what you've read.

When reading any kind of text for a college course, consider using some of the following techniques:

Margin comments: write down your thoughts and reactions to a paragraph, a short summary, or a question in the margin next to a paragraph as you read.

Ask questions: create questions from what you've read that will help you when you study. You can also ask questions about things you don't understand or need to look up later.

Make connections: what you read may remind you of other things you already know from your life, from class, from something you've read. Note those connections.

Summarize: Briefly summarize the main ideas of a particular paragraph or section to help you recall what it's about.

Active Reading Double Entry Log

What The Text Says	Reaction/Comments /Questions/Summary