**How to Read Nonfiction:**

As we interpret our article, essay, biography, autobiography, or memoir, make sure you follow the steps (to ensure your understanding)

STEP 1: SHOW NO FEAR

* YOU ARE A BOSS

STEP 2: READ THE TITLE AND STOP

* What is the title:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
* Based on the title, what do I think the topic/subject is:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

STEP 3: READ THE ARTICLE ALL THE WAY THROUGH

* The introduction usually gives the central idea. What is it?\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

* What are the sections titled?\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

STEP 4: USE A DICTIONARY TO LOOK UP WORDS I

 DON’T KNOW

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Term | Definition |
|  |  |
|  |  |
|  |  |
|  |  |

STEP 5: ANNOTATE



* Read through the article again and mark stars, circles, and ? marks, for your annotation tools! This is also called a “codebook.” We are coding the article for interesting details.
* What do you predict will happen next (after the stopping point)?\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

* What line makes you visualize (see, hear, smell, feel) something?\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

ANNOTATIONS CONTINUED….

* Connections! Does this text remind you of an event or news story? Have you read something relating to the topic? What event/news story/novel was it? Describe the connection: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

* Questions: What do you wonder about? Do you trust the author? Why? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

* Inference (educated guess): Why was this article written? What motivated the people within it?

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

* Summarize: What was the central (big) idea of the whole article? Who, what, when, where, why. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

STEP 6: IDENTIFY THE AUTHOR

* Author(s) name:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
* Point of View (belief/claim):\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

STEP 7: CIRCLE KEY WORDS (WORDS THAT SIGNAL A NEW IDEA).

* LIST TWO POSSIBLE KEY WORDS

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STEP 8: USE THE KEY WORDS TO DETERMINE TEXT STRUCTURE (COMPARE/CONTRAST, CHRONOLOGICAL, PROBLEM SOLUTION, CAUSE/EFFECT)

* What is the structure?\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

STEP 9: READ IT ONE LAST TIME

* What is the central idea?\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_