



"Reading with Your Pen" Palette for Annotating Texts

1	Write a question or make a statement about something you read in the margin. Draw a line to the relevant part of the text.
2	Circle a word you don't know. Look up the word's definition using a dictionary or www.dictionary.com . Write the definition or synonym of the word in the margin.
3	Draw an (arrow→) to illustrate the link between two parts of the text. Write your explanation near the arrow or in the margin.
4	Circle an idea in the text that you find enlightening (an idea that you found interesting or that taught you something). Find a way to "thank" the author for that idea in the margin.
5	<u>Underline something you disagree with</u> and write a note in the margin to explain why. Be constructive.
6	Draw a 😊 next to something that made you laugh or smile and explain why in the margin.
7	Draw a 📢 (horn) next to a passage that made you hear a sound in your mind. Next to it, describe the sound and the feelings created in your mind.
8	Underline a sentence you found totally confusing. Draw a big ? (question mark) next to the sentence and in the margin, write about why you found it confusing.
9	Write an E near part of the text where an event is described. In the margin write down what you think are the cause and the effect of this event.
10	Is there a word in the text that is hard to pronounce? If so, ask how that word is pronounced and make note of the pronunciation next to the word using a phonetic (FO-NEH-TIC) spelling.
11	Draw a box around a sentence that you think is the main idea, thesis, or organizing concept of the text you're reading.
12	Write a specific comment about how you find an idea in the text interesting or useful. You may also reflect on what it made you think about.
13	Remix/rewrite/translate/paraphrase part of the text into your own words. Write your own version of the text in the margin.
14	Draw a ★ (star) next to a word, concept, or idea from the text that you learned about in another class. Write what you remember about that word or concept in the margin.
15	Write down a comment that builds on what you just read. For example, you might make a connection between the reading and your life, imagine you're in a conversation with the author, or predict what might happen next.
16	Draw a 🔑 (key) next to something that you think is a "key" idea. Explain in the margin why you think the idea is important.
17	Underline a sentence you found surprising. Draw a big ! (exclamation mark) next to the sentence that caught your attention in the margin.
18	Draw a 🪝 (hook) next to a part that "hooked" your attention. In the margin write why the passage hooked you.
19	In the margin, draw a simple picture or cartoon to help you understand something in the text. Draw an arrow connecting your picture and the text.
20	Write and answer the 5Ws and 1H (who, what, when, where, why, how) in the margin of the text.
21	Draw an ✂️ (ax) next to a part of the text that you think is unnecessary and should have been cut. Explain why you felt that part of the text wasn't necessary for the reader.