

SOURCE ANNOTATION/CLOSE READ DIRECTIONS

STEP 1: Skim or survey the source.

- Write a prediction next to the title. What will the source be about?


STEP 2: Number the paragraphs in the **left** side/margin.

STEP 3: First Read: Read the source independently or with your teacher to get the gist of the text.

Annotate and mark in the **right** side/margin by using:

- ! for surprising, interesting, or thought provoking sentences
- ? for confusing parts or questions you might have

STEP 4: Second Read: Reread the source.

- Underline the main idea (thesis) of the source. It is usually found in the first paragraph.
- Underline the topic sentence of each paragraph (main idea of each paragraph). 
- Circle unfamiliar or new words. Use context clues to write the definition in the **right** margin.
- Use context clues to figure out the meaning of underlined words. Write the definition in the **right** margin.

STEP 5: At the end of the source, write the author's purpose or reason for writing the source. Was it to entertain, inform, or persuade (argumentation)?

STEP 6: Complete the writing response at the end of the source, using evidence from the text to support your answer.