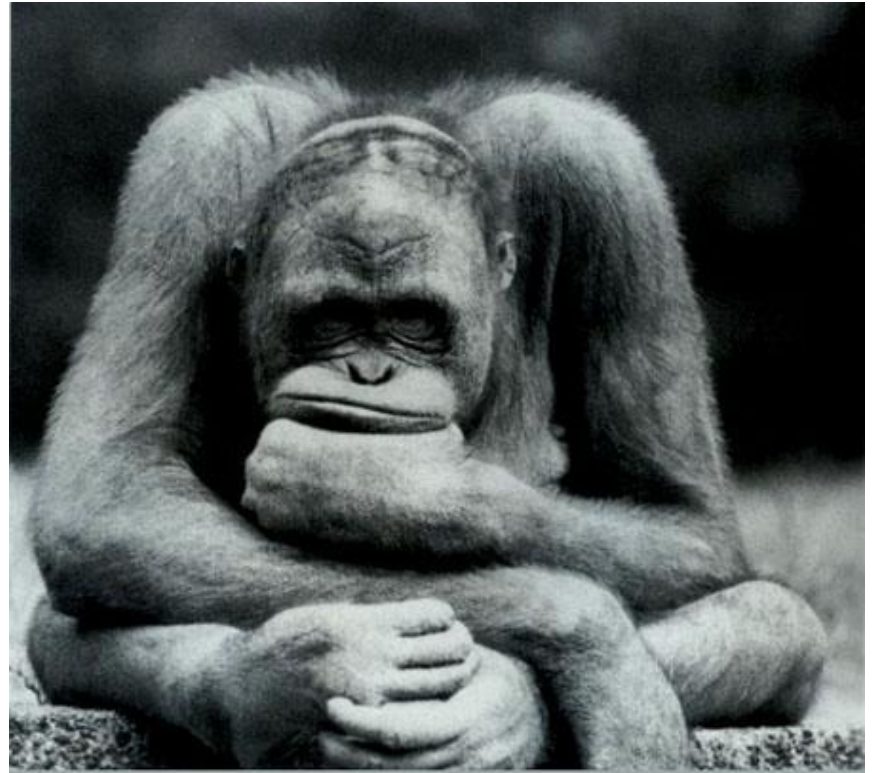




ACTIVE READING STRATEGIES: HOW TO READ ANYTHING!

HAS THIS HAPPENED TO YOU?

- Too much to read in too little time?
- Highlight everything but nothing important?
- Read something, then forget what you just read?
- Hard time reading a difficult text?

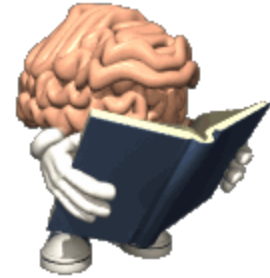


Oh what to do, what to dooo?



WHAT SKILLED READERS DO WHILE THEY READ:

- Activate prior knowledge
- Set a purpose/reason/goal for reading
- Decode text into words & meanings
- Make personal connections
- Make predictions
- Visualize
- Ask questions
- Monitor understanding & summarize
- Apply what has been learned



WHAT IS ACTIVE READING?

- Academic reading
- Reading for a purpose
- Focus on the meaning
- Engage with a piece to retain more info
- Remember SQ3R? Same idea!



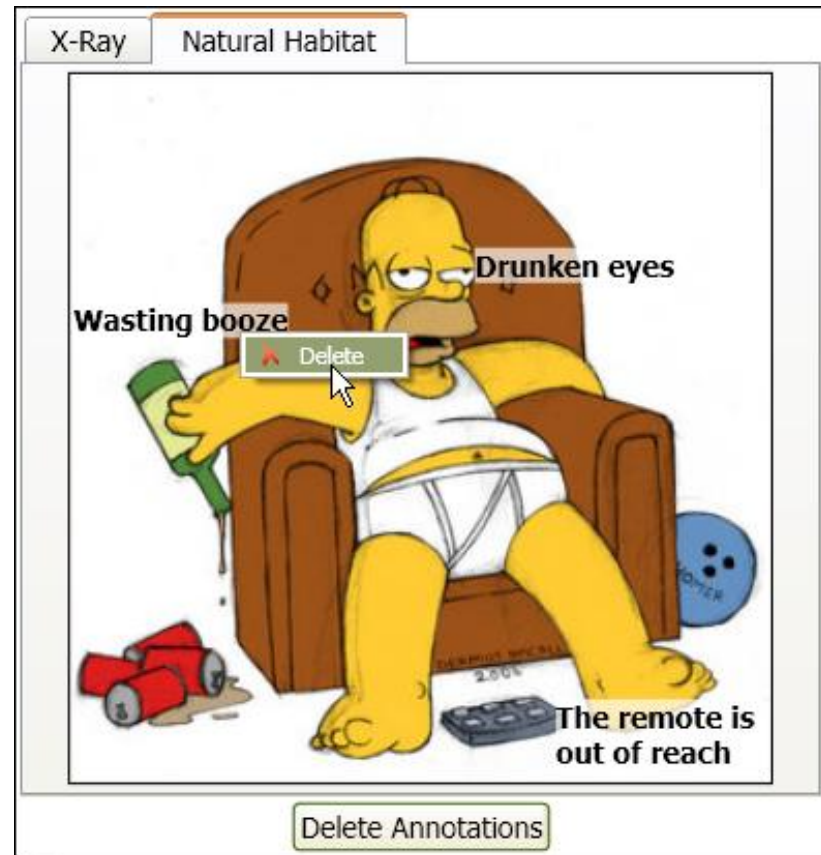
WHY PRACTICE ACTIVE READING?

- Read a text well the first time
- Reduce the clutter
- Find the main idea
- Put information in your own words
- Begin the process of committing information to memory
- Throw away highlighters & pick up a pen or pencil instead
- Good reading = comprehension



ANNOTATION: WHAT IS IT?

- Annotating: brief writing in the margin of a text
- Formulate questions in response to text
- Analyze and interpret elements of literature
- Draw conclusions and make inferences based on literal and figurative meanings



The Journey
by Mary Oliver

Speaker + Audience:

The speaker in the poem uses 2nd person point of view ("you") to address the reader directly; the constant repetition makes it feel as if it's a private talk between the speaker and each individual reader

Tone: I would characterize the tone as: strident, confident, determined, almost conspiratorial; the speaker wants me to listen carefully to the message before I set out on my own journey... which will be different than hers, of course.

One day you finally knew what you had to do, and began, though the voices around you kept shouting their bad advice-- though the whole house began to tremble and you felt the old tug at your ankles. "Mend my life!" each voice cried. But you didn't stop. You knew what you had to do, though the wind pried with its stiff fingers at the very foundations, though their melancholy was terrible. It was already late enough, and a wild night, and the road full of fallen branches and stones. But little by little, as you left their voices behind, the stars began to burn through the sheets of clouds, and there was a new voice which you slowly recognized as your own, that kept you company as you strode deeper and deeper into the world, determined to do the only thing you could do-- determined to save the only life you could save.

Occasion: the speaker may have been prompted by an actual walk down a road during a storm and used that experience to create a metaphor for a difficult journey, one with distractions and obstacles

→ Purpose: the speaker seems to be saying that the hardest journey of all may be to listen to your own inner voice, especially when there is a "storm" of other voices advising you otherwise

↘ Subject: It's clear the poet feels that I need to pay attention to my own journey, my own vision of who and what I am and what my journey is all about as I stride "deeper and deeper into the world." Only when I listen to my own voice and chart my own course will the stars burn through and guide me safely inside to who I am

SAMPLE ANNOTATED TEXT

- There's no right or wrong way to annotate.
- It varies from reader to reader.
- This is just one person's way of annotating a text
- **Don't know what to mark?** Start with characters descriptions, events that add to the plot, important symbols, powerful images and words, confusing sections, thematic ideas... just to name a few.

ANNOTATION: SURVEY

- Read introduction & conclusion
- Read bolded material, title, headings, subheadings,
- View pictures, illustrations, graphs, images
- Read the topic sentences of paragraphs (& last sentence of paragraphs, if necessary)
- Note the thesis
- GOAL: Survey the text and get an overall idea of the reading's purpose and meaning



THE OVERWHELMED



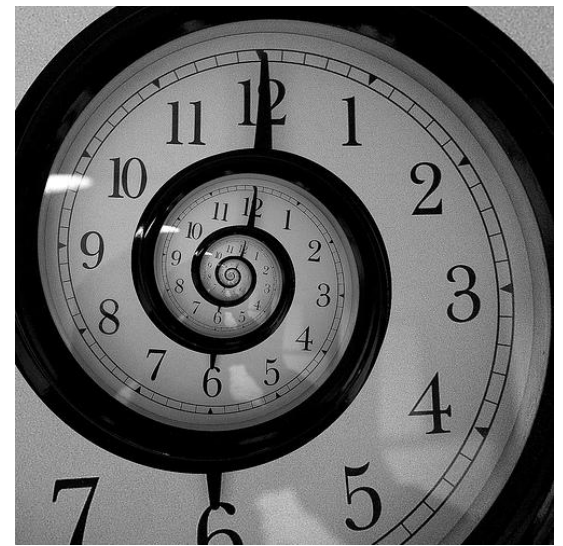
ANNOTATION: READING

- Read in chunks
- Take in the information in small sections or paragraphs
- Read with a goal in mind (i.e. your assignment?)
- After reading a section, underline the most important points after you read the section



ANNOTATION: SUMMARIZE

- **TAKE YOUR TIME!!**
- Use brief words and phrases
- Check for understanding
- Reduce text to what's most important
- Ask yourself questions:
 - “What did I learn here?”
 - “What is the gist of this section?”
 - What is the author's purpose in this paragraph?
- Summary: rewrite in your own words what you think the author is trying to say
- Analysis: briefly analyze the author's ideas
- Response: write any insights or questions





AVOID THE READING RACE



ANNOTATION REMINDERS

- Identifies a single idea
- Each entry is no more than 3 or 4 words
- Underline key phrases
- Write questions/phrases
- Note word patterns & repetitions
- Circle unknown words
- Keep track of the idea as it unfolds
- **Avoid excessive underlining or highlighting**
(only 25%-30%)



OTHER EFFECTIVE STRATEGIES

- Academic Notes
- Interactive Notes
- Q-Notes
- Compare & Contrast
- Think-Aloud
- Main Idea Notes

- ONLINE TEXT?
 - Print out the readings
 - Make your notes on your computer while reading
 - Use different colors, sizes, fonts





QUESTIONS?

- Ask your teacher
- Keep at it! 😊

