Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Period: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Making Annotations: A User’s Guide**

As you work with your text, consider all of the ways that you can connect with what you are reading. Here are some suggestions that will help you with your annotations:

* Define words or slang; make the words real with examples from your experiences; explore why the author would have used a particular word or phrase.
* Make connections to other parts of the book. Feel free to use direct quotes from the book.
* Make connections to other texts you have read or seen, including:
  + Movies
  + Comic books/graphic novels
  + News events
  + Other books, stories, plays, songs, or poems
* Draw a picture when a visual connection is appropriate.
* Re-write, paraphrase, or summarize a particularly difficult passage or moment.
* Make meaningful connections to your own life experiences.
* Describe a new perspective you may now have.
* Explain the historical context or traditions/social customs that are used in the passage.
* Offer an analysis or interpretation of what is happening in the text.
* Point out and discuss literary techniques that the author is using.

**Guide to Annotating the Scholarly Article**

Please follow these directions in preparing the essay you selected for presentation. Use a pencil in case you wish to make changes as you analyze the structure and content of the essay.

1. Underline the thesis (it may be more than one sentence). Sometimes a thesis is *implied* by the body of points and evidence. If the thesis is not explicitly stated, please write the essay’s central idea in your own words in the margin along the introduction of the essay.
2. Draw a straight line between the intro and the body, and between the body and the conclusion, to separate the parts of the essay.
3. Identify (in the margin of the essay) rhetorical devices (ways of organizing), using the following codes:

**S** = synthesis

**A** = analysis

**C/C** = comparison/contrast

**CE** = cause and effect

**CL** = classification

**D** = description

**N** = narration

**ARG** = argument

**P** = persuasion

1. Find and label (using the codes below) one example of each type of source integration:

**Q** = quote

**PP** = paraphrase

**SUM** = summary

1. Using the codes below, label one citation of a primary source and one citation of a secondary source.

**PS** = primary source

**SS** = secondary source

1. Use the codes below to label one interpretation (other than thesis) and the evidence supporting it.

**I** = interpretation

**E** = evidence

1. **If** the thesis is restated in the conclusion, underline this restatement.
2. **If** a final thought is offered in the conclusion, double underline it.
3. In the margins of the bibliography, identify the number of primary and secondary sources used by scholar
4. Comment in the margins on the content of the article. Essentially, you should provide your opinion on how successfully the scholar fully substantiates the claim of his/her thesis.