


Sample Symbols For Taking Thinking Notes

SYMBOL	WHAT IT MEANS
+	I agree with this.
-	I disagree with this.
!	This surprises me.
?	This would make for good discussion questions.
TS	Text-to-self connection
TT	Text-to-text connection
TW	Text-to-world connection
MI	Main idea
SD	Supporting details
A	The author is making a claim or argument here.
R	The reasoning the author uses to support his or her claim
X	The author is contradicting him or herself.
POV-1, POV-2, etc	Multiple points of view in this text
ME	Author is telling of his/her own lived experiences.
YOU	Author is telling of another person or group's experiences.
B	The author is making a biased claim or using biased language.
ST	This sounds like a stereotype.
+/+	Themes related to sameness
+/-	Themes related to difference
=	Language/author is describing a balanced power relationship.
≠	Language/author is describing an imbalance of power.
GR	Language/author is making a claim or observation through the lens of gender.
\$	Language/author is making a claim or observation through the lens of socioeconomic class.
RC	Language/author is making a claim or observation through the lens of race.
US/THEM or IN/OUT	Language/author is employing "us vs. them" language that divides people into in and out groups.
	Language/author is describing or advocating for social change.
ABS I.1-5, D.6-10, J.11-15, A.16-20	Use the Teaching Tolerance anti-bias standards to annotate the text.

Create your own thinking notes symbols

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