

OVERVIEW OF NONFICTION SIGNPOSTS

OBJECTIVE: Increase our understanding of nonfiction writing through meaningful, interpretive, and evaluative analysis, discussion, and presentation.

Signpost	Task [a Brief Overview of each Signpost]	Annotation Symbol
	<p>When you're reading and the author shows you a difference between what you know and what is happening in the text, or a difference in the text, you should stop and ask yourself: What is the difference and why does it matter? Answering the question will help you see details that show you:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Main Ideas <input type="checkbox"/> Compare and contrast <input type="checkbox"/> Author's Purpose <input type="checkbox"/> Inference / Generalizations <input type="checkbox"/> Cause and effect 	<p style="font-size: 2em;">CC</p>
	<p>When you're reading and you notice the author uses a word or phrase you don't know, you should stop and ask yourself: Do I know this word from somplace else? Does this seem like technical talk for experts about this topic? Can I find clues in the sentence to help me understand the word? Answering the question will help you decide if:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> you need to look the word up <input type="checkbox"/> you need to keep reading for more information / look for context clues 	<p style="font-size: 2em;">W</p>
	<p>When you're reading and you notice specific numbers, number words, or amounts, you should stop and ask yourself: Why did the author use those numbers or amounts? Answering the question will help you:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> come to a conclusion <input type="checkbox"/> make a comparison <input type="checkbox"/> see details <input type="checkbox"/> make inferences <input type="checkbox"/> find facts or recognize evidence 	<p style="font-size: 2em;">S/N</p>
	<p>When you're reading and you notice the author quoted a Voice of Authority, a Personal Perspective, or cited Other's Words, you should stop and ask yourself: Why did the author say it like that? Answering the question will tell you:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> author's point-of-view <input type="checkbox"/> author's purpose <input type="checkbox"/> the difference between facts and opinions <input type="checkbox"/> how to make a generalization 	<p style="font-size: 2em;">" "</p>
	<p>When you're reading and you notice the author uses language that leaves no doubt, exaggerates, or pushes the limit, you should stop and ask yourself: Why did the author quote or cite this person? Answering the question will help you:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> think about the author's point-of-view and purpose <input type="checkbox"/> think about the author's bias or conclusion <input type="checkbox"/> gain a perspective <input type="checkbox"/> decipher between facts and opinions <input type="checkbox"/> make a generalization 	<p style="font-size: 2em;">E</p>