

RADICALLY 
 **POSSIBLE**
POWERFULLY
 **YOU**

The Art of College



Graffiti

**SKILL FOCUS: READING FOR MEANING
AND ANNOTATION**



What is Graffiti?





History

- Graffiti is words or images written on a wall or other public place
- Graffiti has existed throughout history for example it has been found on Greek and Roman walls, Mayan Ruins.
- Modern Graffiti culture in the U.S. began in the 60's and 70's in cities such as New York and Philadelphia.
- In the 1980's Graffiti moved on to the West Coast in cities such as Oakland, L.A. and San Francisco

Have you seen Graffiti? Is it artistic expression or destructive?



Examples of Early Graffiti

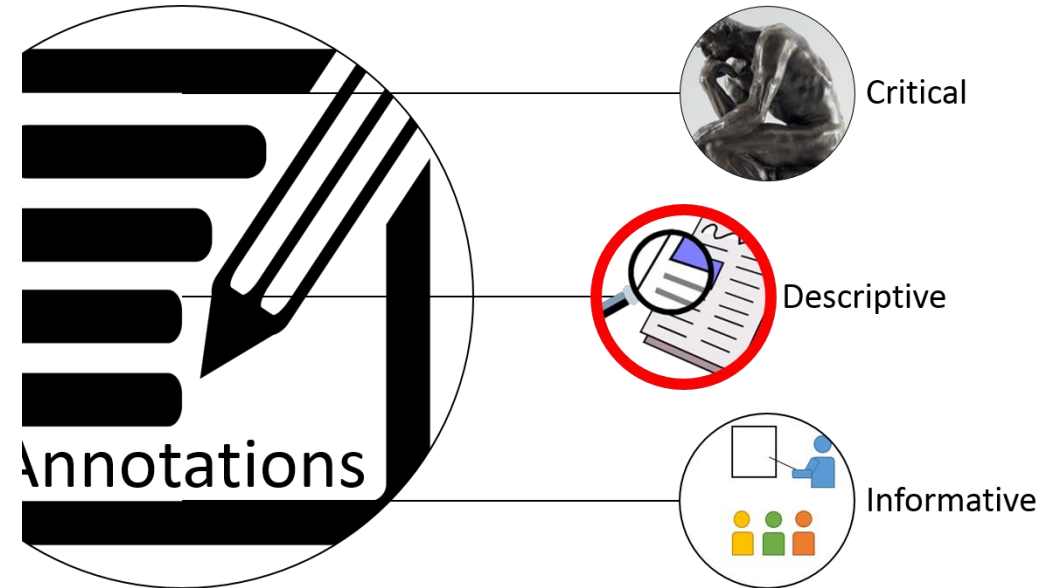


Graffiti Evolution



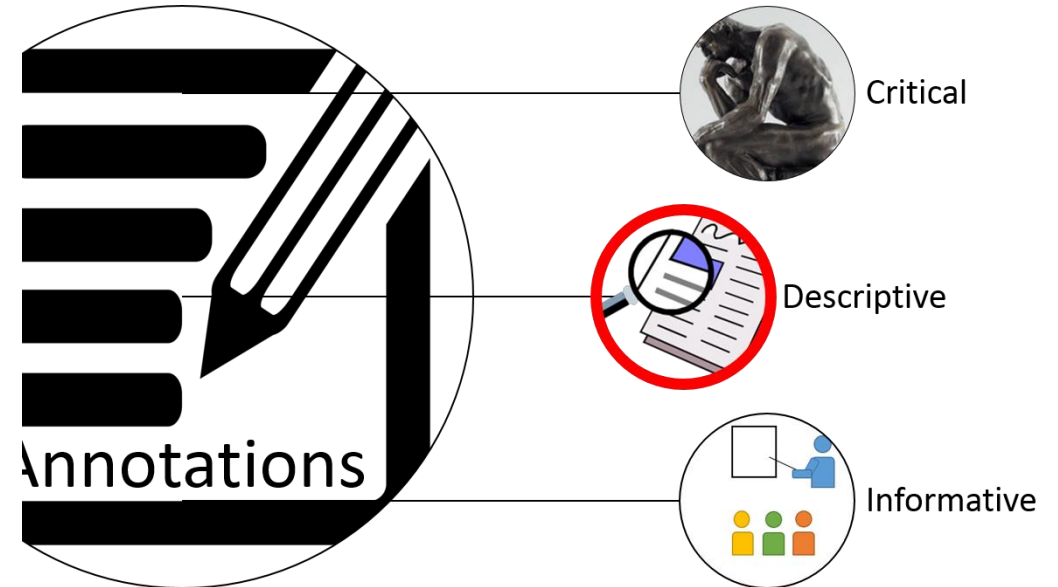
Annotate...How?

- Write in Margins
- Use a key system
- Use an acronym
- Highlighting (see tips)
- Use Abbreviations and symbols ! ? * =====



Annotate...What?

- Define unfamiliar words or phrases
- Personal connections
- Surprising/Interesting new info
- Clarifying questions
- Previous knowledge
- Summary sentence



What else to "look for"?

Annotation Look-Fors	
Key Words & Ideas What is the author saying?	Craft & Structure How is the author saying it?
• who + what • emphasis of words, phrases, and ideas • images/graphic features • new words or concepts • moments that make you stop & think • author/narrator/character perspective	• title + headings • text structure • elements of genre • repetition of words, sounds, or ideas • figurative language • connections within/across sections



Why Annotate?

- Locating evidence in support of a claim
- Identifying main idea and supporting details
- Analyzing the validity of an argument or counterargument
- Determining author's purpose
- Giving an opinion, reacting, or reflecting



Why else?

- Identifying character traits/motivations
- Summarizing and synthesizing
- Defining key vocabulary
- Identifying patterns and repetitions
- Making connections/making predictions

Let's Practice

Graffiti has become so mainstream in recent years that [auction houses](#), [museums](#) and entire [art shows](#) cater to street art connoisseurs and collectors around the world. [Images in the news](#) of young vandals responsible for marking walls have been replaced by sleek websites belonging to [global phenoms such as Banksy](#) and [Shepard Fairey](#).

The vibrantly colored walls in such places attract travelers to parts of town once deemed “sketchy.” These same neighborhoods are home to bookstores that carry graffiti coffee table books and universities that offer courses on graffiti art. [I have taught](#) such courses myself. But it hasn’t always been this way.

In cities around the world, graffiti is now associated with “street artists” rather than violent street gangs. Today, many cities, from Pittsburgh to Pretoria, invite street artists to help brand neighborhoods that are being revitalized and gentrified as legitimately hip destinations for business owners, home buyers and influencers. Some up-and-coming neighborhoods in cities like [Dakar, Senegal](#); [Mexico City](#); [Brisbane, Australia](#); and [Seoul, South Korea](#) offer [street art tours](#) and host [graffiti festivals](#)

CITATIONS

Webdesigner Depot. (2015, January 9). *40 striking examples of graffiti art*. Webdesigner Depot.

<https://webdesignerdepot.com/40-striking-examples-of-graffiti-art/>

Nist, S., & Holschuh, J. (2000). *Active learning: strategies for college success*. Boston: Allyn and Bacon. 202-218.

Simpson, M., & Nist, S. (1990). Textbook annotation: An effective and efficient study strategy for college students. *Journal of Reading*, 34: 122-129.



Highlighting Tips

- Only highlight after you've reached the end of a paragraph or a section. Stop and think about what you read and determine the main concepts before you highlight. This will help you pinpoint key concepts and decrease mindless highlighting.
- Limit yourself to highlighting one sentence or phrase per paragraph. Look for the sentence that best expresses the main concept.
- Highlight key words and phrases instead of full sentences. When looking back over these words and phrases, quiz yourself on them before reading further.
- Consider color-coding: choose one color for definitions and key points and another color for examples.
- Using your own words, write summaries of the key concepts you've highlighted in the margins or in a separate set of notes.

Reviewing Notes

- Identify key terms, names, formulas, dates and concepts. Highlight/Mark the information differently (highlighting, circling, underlining, and using abbreviations or symbols to save writing time, emphasize key information and streamline your review process.
- Leave a column blank when you're taking notes in class. When reviewing, use this space to expand, explain, or fill in information you don't have time to write in class.
- Indicate the relevant pages in your text or other course materials that corresponds to the content of your notes.
- Make keys and summaries.
- Make connections between concepts and ideas from that day's class or that week's class to other classes in the current unit or others.