Annotation
A Powerful Reading Strategy
an·no·ta·tion  /əˈnətəʃən/  

Noun:
1. A note by way of explanation or comment added to a text or diagram.
2. The action of annotating a text or diagram

Synonyms:
note - comment - gloss - remark - notation - commentary
What is Annotation?

- Annotation is a system of marking a textbook that involves the reader (meaning you, the student).

- In other words, annotation is a way of writing in your book, making notes to yourself.
Importance of Annotation:

• Improves your concentration so that you don’t become distracted and have to reread

• Provides a way to check for your understanding of the text’s main ideas.

• Helps you remember more.

• Assists you in getting ready for tests.
What to Annotate

- Main ideas
- Supporting ideas
- Definitions
- Examples
- Key information such as names, dates, events
- What you don’t understand (e.g., concepts)
- What you don’t know (e.g., vocab words)
Ways to Annotate

You can annotate in multiple ways:

- Writing brief summaries in the margin or on a sticky note
- Numbering ideas within or among paragraphs
- Sketching pictures or charts in the margins
- Drafting possible text questions in the margins as you read
- Note concepts that need clarification by the professor
- Underline key ideas or concepts
- Circle words to look up
Annotation tips

- Pay close attention to diagrams and other graphic organizers
- Use colors, diagrams, arrows & symbols when annotating
- Underline, {bracket}, circle, asterisk*, and use numerals and other symbols to mark the text
- Create simple concept maps of the Information
The United States has a special system of federal government. The states and the national government share power. The U.S. Constitution tells how power is shared. It provides the framework for organizing the government.