**ANNOTATED CLOSE READING**

Reading and writing go hand in hand. The better you understand a text, the more likely you are to successfully communicate your thoughts about it in writing. So it’s important to develop strong skills in both areas. With that in mind, here’s how to improve your reading comprehension.

*As you are reading the article, do the following directly on your copy of the article:*

1. **Highlight** the text for the following:
   1. Points that you think are important and should be stressed
   2. Text-to-self, text-to-text, text-to-world connections
   3. Parts that you do not understand
2. Make **notes** in the margins for:
   1. Items that you highlighted (importance, connections, confusion)
   2. Ideas that you agree or disagree with
   3. Ideas that surprise, anger, or otherwise cause a strong reaction

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