**Article of the Week (AoW)**

Research clearly shows that the best way to become a better reader and to learn to analyze texts is to… READ! No kidding. So we’re going to read widely – which means a variety of text, every week, on your own time. No complaining! You will not receive very much homework in my class. However, you will have one article to read, annotate, and respond to.

**How it Works**

On Monday you will receive a printed Article of the Week. You are responsible for reading and interacting with the article on your own time, then turning it in at the beginning of class the following Monday. You will receive one of four grades:

* 20 for a job well done (full credit)
* 15 for an average job
* 10 for an incomplete job
* 0 for missing work

This is the **only** assignment that I will not accept late. Each AoW is a new opportunity to get full credit.

**What to Do**

You’re going to start by just reading the article - probably 2-3 times. You can do it!

* **Step 1: Close Read** - read with a pencil and a highlighter in hand and annotate the text
* *Suggestion*: Read the article through once, then read it again and annotate the second time around.
  + At a glance, your copy of the article should look heavily marked. Up close, your comments and questions should seem sincere and thoughtful. This is the look of “active reading.”
* **To annotate**:
* Highlight or underline key words and phrases—anything that strikes you as surprising or important, or that raises questions or confusions should be marked
* Write your thoughts and reactions in the margins next to what you have marked.
  + Make connections - text-to-self, text-to-world, or text-to-text
  + Note: Random underlining or highlighting by itself without annotating is coloring, not close reading. You can try using “think marks” like:
    - **√** - “I knew that!”
    - **?** - “I don’t get that part”
    - **!** - “That’s surprising/exciting!”
    - **\*** - “That is important”
* Circle words you don’t know and then look them up! Write down the definition in the margin. Many of these articles are written for a broad readership; a wider vocabulary offers you greater access to the world.
* Notice and Note Signposts for Nonfiction These will be a great help to you. Once we learn about these, you will be expected to annotate for them as well

Once you have annotated the article, create a Google Doc for the AoW. Put your heading in the top left corner (name, date, period), then include the title of the article and the author. You will complete steps 2 and 3 on this document; please print the document and attach it to your annotated article.

* **Step 2: Objective Summary**– Write an objective summary for the article (in which you include:
* The title and author
* A summary verb (**see your objective summary verbs list**) underlined Think about the **author’s purpose** for writing the article.
* The sentence completed with the main idea/main point of the article.
* Supporting and significant details only, **paraphrased in your own words.**

**Sample: *The article, “Coming Soon To A Classroom Near You…RoboRoaches,” explores a new technology that controls a cockroach with a smart phone and the various uses for this discovery.***

* **Step 3: AoW Activity List** - **Choose one** of the following activities and complete it on the same document as your Summary Statement:

1. Choose 3 interesting quotes or passages from this week’s article and write a **2 to 3** **sentence** **reflection** for each in which you explain their meaning and/or importance.
2. Write down **5 things you learned** by reading this week’s article. Which of these 5 do you think is the most important to know? Explain in **a well -written paragraph**.
3. Choose **3** of the following sentence starters and **write a brief 2-3 sentence reflection for each**:

I noticed. . . If I were. . .

I wonder why . . . I still don’t understand. . .

I was reminded of . . . What interested me most was…

I am surprised that. . . I can relate to this because. . .

I’d like to know. . . . This idea/article is similar to...

I realized. . .

***IMPORTANT***

* If you are absent on Monday, the AoW will always be posted on my website. Print it and get to work!
* Your work is due on the following Monday **no matter what**.
* Your AoW is due when class starts. You may not print your work during class.
* I do not accept AoWs late.