

NAME _____

Mr. Shinski

TEXT CODING

Highlighting v. Text Coding:

In 2005 Harvard Library requested to throw out every highlighter! Highlighting is “passive” and does not encourage comprehension or thought. Text coding helps readers “engage” or become active thinkers by questioning the ideas and facts presented.

SYMBOL	When to Use	What to Write in the Margin (brief)
+1 / -1	When you agree/disagree with a statement. When you had a previous idea that is said to be different or knew it already.	Make sure you write down conflicting ideas/statistics <i>and</i> cite where they came from. What you thought previously before reading the text.
Circle and Underline John Rolfe, <u>not</u> John Smith married Pocohontas	When a key word is present in a sentence that makes a big difference in its meaning.	Any note that helps you remember the real fact and remember the difference between a misconception.
<u>Unknown</u> (V)	When you read a word you are unfamiliar with underline it and put a circled V next to or above it. V = Vocab Word	Use your phone, a dictionary, tablet, or computer to look up the word. You may choose to write the definition down.
?	When you have a question about the text. Try to think about it in regards to the topic and the social studies core themes.	What questions come up when reading the text? What additional information might be needed to verify an idea presented?
!	When you see something in the reading that you feel is an interesting point to share in an essay or assignment.	Write a quick note why you think it's interesting.
★	When you read something you think is very important to remember for an essay or exam.	Put a large star and any notes about why you thought it was important.
[____]	Bracket a group of sentences then summarize in the margin.	Simplify the ideas or concept

Is Highlighting Still Acceptable?

Yes but be careful to not overdo it! Highlighting everything is really just changing the color of the paper the text is written on. Try to identify:

-Key names, dates, titles, locations, facts, statistics

-Who, What, When, Where, Why, How

-Main social studies concepts: **Compare and Contrast, Then v. Now, Relationships, Cause and Effect**