



Sixth College Academic Advising

How to mark your textbook

The key to good textbook marking is being selective and systematic. Develop a system that will help you to sort information into major and minor points. Try some of the following suggestions from the Learning Center at the University of North Carolina.

www.unc.edu/depts/lcweb

- Double underline main ideas. Natural selection is the primary cause...
- Single underline supporting ideas. gene mutation comes from...
- Write cue words in the margins. *Simmel* | Simmel's fundamental belief . . .
- Write "e.g." next to examples *e.g.* | One example of this is...
- Use small circled numbers to indicate when ideas, arguments, examples, etc. are enumerated in a passage. A variety of reasons for this change...
 ① Industrial Revolution...
 ② population increase...
 ③ rise of the middle class...
- Use a vertical bracket for three or more important lines. primary cause . . .
including the . . .
and finally the . . .
- Use a series of asterisks to indicate levels of importance. ***The main cause of the mutation . . .
**One reason for this may be . . .
*Of some interest . . .
- Put a question mark in the margin next to a concept you do not understand. ? | The Korean war . . .
economic disparities . . .
- If you disagree with a statement, note this in the margin. *disagree* → | The further Dante . . .
the more we can see that . . .
- Use the top and bottom margins to record any ideas of your own. *Possible that Marx meant . . .*
Smith argues that Marx . . .
the proletariat could . . .
- Jot down brief summaries in the margins. *Meiosis = cell division..* | Meiosis is the process . .