

Questions for Discussion and Writing

Engage

*These questions are meant to **get you started** with annotation/note-taking and discussion. Also think about your purpose for reading: Is it to understand? Explore? Enjoy? Your purpose for reading may also influence your thoughts about what stands out to you.*

- What did you notice first? What words and phrases stand out to you? What line(s) did you find most interesting?/What was your favorite line?
- What did it make you think of?/What did you like about it?
- What new information/concepts/ideas did you learn?
- What does it make you curious about? What does it make you wonder? What questions does it make you think of?

Understand

*These questions focus on **understanding** what the author/creator is trying to communicate.*

- Summarize this text, idea, concept, event or issue.
- What terms or concepts are defined in connection with this source?
- What are your key takeaways?

Analysis & Connections

*These questions are focused on **analyzing** the information and ideas and **exploring connections** to other sources and ideas. See also the *Depth & Complexity* questions.*

- How does this source connect with any themes, patterns or trends in this unit of study?
- What themes emerge between two or more sources we are studying?
- How does this source contrast with another source or idea? What contrasts do you notice?

Evaluate

*These questions are focused on **critically evaluating** the information and ideas presented in this source and **articulating insights** gained through note-taking, discussion and reflection. See also the *Depth & Complexity* questions.*

- What perspectives can we take to help us better understand the situation?
- What assumptions exist?
- How/why is this source, idea, concept, event, issue or person significant in a broader context?
- What information, ideas and questions can you come up with that challenge the ideas, issues or events presented here?
- How has this issue, concept or problem been addressed by others in society?
- What insights have you developed from discussing and reflecting on this source, idea, concept, information, event, issue or person?

Create

*These questions are focused on using information and insights to **inspire creativity and positive action**.*

- How might we explore this idea, concept, event or issue further?
- How might our discussion/reflection influence our actions in a way that creates positive and sustainable personal or social change?