

MILT VAN SO?

Use the *MILT VAN So?* annotation techniques to take notes on your nonfiction reading materials. These techniques will help you prepare for ACT-style reading quizzes like the SAT, ACT, and many of your high school reading quizzes.

MI -- Highlight or underline main ideas. Review these before a quiz.

L -- Circle or mark lead words. These are the words that will help you review an article's key supporting ideas. They are often names of people, places, or ideas, and often they provide the evidence that supports a main idea sentence. Review these before a quiz.

T -- Mark and notice transitions, especially in persuasive writing. This will make you aware of the parts of a writer's arguments. These transitions are often conjunctive adverbs like "next," or "furthermore." Review these before the quiz.

V -- Mark challenging vocabulary. Look up those you do not know, and review these before a quiz.

A -- Ask questions and argue with the text when you are confused, disagree, or recognize a thinking problem. Bring your questions up in class. Notes problems based on the thinking errors we will learn in class.

N -- Write down other notes you think will help you remember key points.

So? -- Reflect on why the writer made the choices that he or she did. Why write about this topic? Why start this way? Why choose these words? Why use this tone? You will always be asked about these rhetorical strategies on quizzes, so it's good to think about them ahead of time.

Note: You will have a timed quiz over the "6-pack of Problems" article. You WILL be allowed to use your notes. You will turn in your annotated notes for both articles for an annotation grade.