Annotation Strategies

The CATCH Strategy

- **C**ircle unfamiliar words (then define them--use synonyms)
- **A**cknowledge confusion (and wrestle with it)
- **T**alk with text
  - comments
  - predictions
  - observations
  - connections
  - reactions
  - identify author's evidence/rhetorical devices
- **C**apture the main idea (main assertion--headline or subtitle?)
- **H**ighlight important details

Believing/Doubting Game

1. Read the article twice.
2. First, play the Believing Game (first and foremost trying to understand what the author is saying, and giving the author the benefit of the doubt).
3. Then, read a second time playing the Doubting Game: ask questions, challenge the author's assumptions, and evaluate evidence.
4. Two ways to format: left/right margins (Believing/Doubting) or a separate T-Chart