Chesterton Academy Guide to Annotating



React to the Text

- Underline or highlight passages that stood out to you or that you particularly enjoyed. If there are specific pages you find important to the story/argument, tab the page so it's easy to find later.
- Note in the margins passages or concepts you found confusing ("?"), exciting ("!"), funny ("Ha"), or important ("Note Well").
- Remember there is no "right answer" to reacting to the text. It's ok to dislike or disagree with the authors we study.



Summarize the Text

- For each paragraph, write a short clause or sentence in the margins summarizing the basic point/argument/plot of the paragraph.
- Summarizing the text will help you when you return to the text to review it with ease, especially if you are being assessed on it!
- Make sure your summaries are neat and readable! They don't help you if you can't read them later!



Question the Text

 For each paragraph, write a short clause or sentence in the margins summarizing the basic point/argument/plot of the paragraph.