

NOTE AND NOTICE NONFICTION SIGNPOST #1:

Contrasts and Contradictions

When you're reading and the author shows you a difference between what YOU know and what is happening in the text



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OR

a difference between two more things in the text, stop and ask yourself:

"WHAT IS THE DIFFERENCE AND WHY DOES IT MATTER?"

The answer will help you see details that:

- Show you the main idea
- Compare and contrast
- Understand the author's purpose
- Make a generalization
- Notice cause and effect



Words That Signal a Contrast or Contradiction in Nonfiction or Informational Text

Alternatively

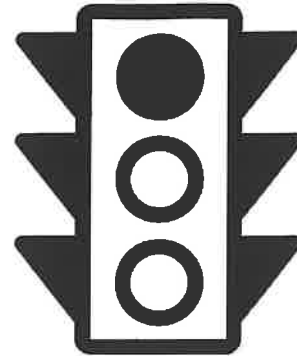
By contrast,

Alternatively

Nonetheless,

Otherwise

Then again



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However,

Unlike

Although

Different from

Instead

On the other hand,

Still,

Yet

NOTE AND NOTICE NONFICTION SIGNPOST #2:

Extreme or Absolute Language

When you're reading and you notice the author uses language that leaves no doubt, exaggerates, or pushes to the limit, you should stop and ask yourself:



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"WHY DID THE AUTHOR SAY IT LIKE THAT?"

"WHY DID THE AUTHOR USE THIS LANGUAGE?"

The answer will tell you something about the **author's point of view** and/or **purpose**. You may also realize the author is exaggerating to make you think a certain way.

Shortcut Annotation Code: E

NOTE AND NOTICE NONFICTION SIGNPOST #3:

Numbers and Stats

When you're reading and you notice specific numbers, number words, data, or statistics, you should stop yourself and ask:



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“WHY DID THE AUTHOR USE THESE NUMBERS OR AMOUNTS?”

The answers might help you:

- Come to a conclusion
- Make a comparison
- See the details
- Infer
- Find facts
- Recognize evidence



NOTE AND NOTICE NONFICTION SIGNPOST #4:

Quoted Words

When you're reading and you notice the author quoted a person of authority/expertise, a personal perspective, or cited the words of others, stop and ask yourself:



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“WHY DID THE AUTHOR QUOTE OR CITE THIS PERSON?”

The answers might help you think about:

- The author's point of view
- The author's purpose (inform, persuade, entertain, explain)
- Finding bias
- Drawing conclusions
- Noticing or discovering a perspective
- Distinguishing facts from opinions



NOTE AND NOTICE NONFICTION SIGNPOST #5:

Word Gaps

When you're reading and the author uses a word or phrase you don't know, you should stop and ask yourself:



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“DO I KNOW THIS WORD FROM SOME PLACE ELSE?”

or

“DOES THIS SEEM LIKE TECHNICAL TALK FOR EXPERTS ON THIS TOPIC?”

or

“CAN I FIND CLUES IN THE SENTENCE TO HELP ME UNDERSTAND THE WORD?”

The answers will help you decide if you need to look up the word in a dictionary, or if you should keep reading for more information to determine the word meaning.

