

Why Bother to Annotate?

It helps readers ...	It helps the teacher ...
Engage with the text when his mind is tempted to wander	Distinguish who is actually reading and who is “fake” reading
Hold thinking so it can be referred to later	“See” what strategies readers are using to access meaning
Recall thinking so they can share with an expert what they need	Diagnose what learners need in order to better comprehend the text
Remember what they thought was important at the time of the reading	Assess what learners understand about the content and how they determine what is important
Notice patterns, synthesis new thinking, and ask questions to build more background knowledge	Notice how the reader is using strategies to construct personal meaning