

Mindful Coding

ThinkSheet for Mark the Text*

Step	Learning Activities: Some require checking off and others require responses.	I did it
1 BEFORE	<p>PREPARE TO CODE</p> <p>Do a preview of the reading assignment.</p> <p>Set an in-depth and useful purpose(s) for reading this text. What is it?</p> <p>Select or create codes that will help you attain your purposes.</p> <p>Make a coding sheet to remind you of your codes and refer to it until your codes are second nature to you. List here the main codes you plan to use or put them on a different sheet:</p>	—
2 DURING	<p>CODE and CO-AUTHOR THE TEXT</p> <p>Read with your mind fully alert. Read the lines, between the lines, and beyond the lines. Read a chunk first before marking it. Do NOT mindlessly mark the text. Have a reason for every mark you make. “Talk” to the author in any of these five ways.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. CODE the text while you are reading it. Make up new codes as necessary and add these to your coding sheet. List the new ones: 2. Create TRIGGER HEADINGS. In texts with few or no headings, make your own headings in the margins to trigger your memory. Does your text have headings? ___ Did you add some headings? ___ Give one example: 3. UNDERLINE, CIRCLE, and/or HIGHLIGHT, but do so sparingly—less than 10% of the text, and only to flag the most important material. Which did you do? ___ Underline ___ Circle ___ Highlight. Why? 4. Along the way SYNTHESIZE the important information for chunks of text by making <i>Download Patterns</i>, creating <i>Telegrams</i>, or doing <i>4x4 Download</i>. Which did you do? Why? 5. ENHANCE THE TEXT (be its co-author). Which of these did you write? Your ___ insights, ___ ideas, ___ questions, ___ opinions, ___ connections, or ___ anything else you want to think about or contribute to this text. Where did you write your comments? ___ in the margins, ___ on sticky tabs, ___ on a piece of paper with the page numbers indicated, ___ computer (explain how you did this): 	—
3 AFTER	<p>REVIEW</p> <p><i>Postview</i> everything you have read today. Identify parts that are very strong in your mind. Identify parts that need more work to meet your purpose(s). Celebrate the first, and <i>Quick-Code</i> the latter. Return to these hard parts and be strategic in meeting your purpose(s).</p>	—

Record *Mindful Coding* on your Reading Log on the DURING line. Complete the right-hand column. To this ThinkSheet attach your coding sheet and a copy of a page showing how you marked your text.

*Inspired by Great Books Foundation (1999) and Adler & Van Doren (1972).