

# Marking the Text: *Science*

This Strategy has three distinct marks:

## 1. Number the paragraphs.

- ① Before you read, take a moment and number the paragraphs in the section you are planning to read. Start with the number one and continue numbering sequentially until you reach the end of the text or reading assignment. Write the number near the paragraph indentation and circle the number; write it small enough so that you have room to write in the margin.
- ② As with page numbers, paragraph numbers will act as a reference so you can easily refer to specific sections of the text.

## 2. Circle key terms, cited authors, and other essential words or numbers.

You might circle...

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• key concepts</li> <li>• content-based vocabulary</li> <li>• lesson-based vocabulary</li> <li>• names of people, theories, and/or experiments</li> <li>• properties</li> <li>• elements</li> <li>• formulas</li> <li>• units of measure</li> <li>• variables</li> <li>• values</li> <li>• percentages</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• _____</li> <li>• _____</li> <li>• _____</li> </ul>
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## 3. Underline the author’s claims and other information relevant to the reading purpose.

While reading informational texts (i.e. textbooks, reference books, articles, or journals), read carefully to identify information that is relevant to the reading task. Relevant information might include:

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Concerns</li> <li>• Claims</li> <li>• Data</li> <li>• Definitions</li> <li>• Descriptions</li> <li>• Evidence</li> <li>• Examples</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Explanations</li> <li>• Guiding language</li> <li>• Hypotheses</li> <li>• “If-Then” statements</li> <li>• Main Ideas</li> <li>• Methods</li> <li>• Processes</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• _____</li> <li>• _____</li> <li>• _____</li> </ul>
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Here are some strategies to help students identify essential information in the reading:

- Read the introduction to the chapter, lab, or article.
- Scan the text for visuals, vocabulary, comprehension questions, or other reading aids.
- Review your notes for key concepts.
- Preview chapter or unit reviews.

Note: If you are not working with consumables, consider photocopying sections of a text that are essential to labs, course content, exams, or other class activities.

## Marking the Text: *Mathematics (Word Problems)*

This Strategy has four distinct marks:

**1. Number the paragraphs.**

① When reading a word problem that is only one paragraph, number each sentence. ② For longer word problems, start with 1 and count by fives (1, 5, 10).

**2. Circle key terms, cited authors, and other essential words or numbers.**

You might circle...

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• action words</li> <li>• sum, add, more than</li> <li>• multiply</li> <li>• simplify</li> <li>• divide</li> <li>• difference, subtract</li> <li>• units</li> <li>• amounts</li> <li>• values</li> <li>• percentages</li> <li>• variables</li> <li>• formulas</li> <li>• solve</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• _____</li> <li>• _____</li> <li>• _____</li> </ul>
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**3. Underline verbal models.<sup>1</sup>**

You might also underline...

- A process
- Definitions
- Descriptions
- Explanations

**4. Box the question.**

In a word problem or multiple choice question,

draw a box around the question.

<sup>1</sup>A verbal model is an expression or equation that uses words to represent a real-life situation.