

Module 1: English Essentials Topic 2 Content: Annotation Notes Sheet

Introduction

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Annotating a text allows you to be an active reader and interact with the text. Explore some of the ways you can "communicate" with a text by clicking on the arrow at the top right of the interactivity.

The Negro Speaks of Rivers
by Langston Hughes

I've known rivers:
I've known rivers ancient as the world and older than the
flow of human blood in human veins.

My soul has grown deep like the rivers.

I bathed in the Euphrates when dawns were young.
I built my hut near the Congo and it lulled me to sleep.
I looked upon the Nile and raised the pyramids above it.
I heard the singing of the Mississippi when Abe Lincoln
went down to New Orleans, and I've seen its muddy
bosom turn all golden in the sunset.

I've known rivers:
Ancient, dusky rivers.

My soul has grown deep like the rivers.

How has he seen all these rivers?

Interesting to include an American river among African rivers

Why this term?

What rivers do I know?

Identifying with his heritage

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Connect your own experiences with elements of the text. Doing so will help you remember and better understand key parts of a text.

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Handwritten notes:

- How has he seen all these rivers?
- Interesting to include an American river among African rivers
- Identifying with his heritage
- What rivers do I know?
- Why this term?

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Identify Questions

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Take notes of any questions that come to mind as you read. They can be parts you may not understand or parts that you want to explore further.

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Generate Commentary

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Comment on your opinions or viewpoints of a text. Does the text succeed in its purpose? Do you agree or disagree with the text? Your comments could provide a jumpstart into assignments you may have on the work.

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Analyze Vocabulary

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Identify vocabulary that may be unfamiliar to you or that may be used in such a way that makes you question the use of the word. An author's word choice can often help you discover the author's tone or attitude about a topic and to figure out the work's meaning.

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