

## **Primary Source Annotation Guide**

A.P.P.A.R.T.S and T.H.I.E.V.E.S

**ANNOTATE:** to make or critical notes or comments.

Because primary sources can sometimes seem difficult to read because of unfamiliar language, annotating primary source documents before and after we read them allows us to understand them better.

There are two models for annotating we will use for these sources. Each model is an acronym for the steps you take in the process of annotating.

- Before Reading = T.H.I.E.V.E.S. Model
- After Reading = A.P.P.A.R.T.S. Model

### **BEFORE READING T.H.I.E.V.E.S. Model**

**TITLE-** Circle

- Does the primary source have a title?
- Do you already know anything about the topic?

**HEADINGS –** Box

- Does the primary source have a heading?
- What does the heading tell me about what I will be reading?

**INTRODUCTION –** Bracket

- Is there an introductory paragraph?
- What does the introduction tell me about what I will be reading?

**EVERY FIRST SENTENCE** (of the paragraph) – Underline

- What do I think each paragraph will be about after reading the first sentence of every paragraph?

**VISUALS AND VOCABULARY**– write definitions above words in the text and look at any pictures or diagrams (if there are any)

**END OF CHAPTER QUESTIONS**

- Read through the reflection questions.

## SUMMARY

- Create a short summary of the primary source (no more than three to five sentences)

**AFTER READING**  
**A.P.P.A.R.T.S. Model**

*Identify the following, and write them in the margins of your primary source.*

**AUTHOR**

- Who created this primary source?

**PLACE AND TIME**

- When and where are the events taking place?

**PRIOR KNOWLEDGE**

- What do you know already about the subject?

**AUDIENCE**

- Who is the author talking to?

**REASON**

- Why was this document created at the time that it was?

**MAIN IDEA**

- What is the point the document is trying to make?

**SIGNIFICANCE**

- Why is this source important?