

# USING THE MARGINALIA ANNOTATION TOOL TO CRITICALLY ENGAGE STUDENTS IN ONLINE DISCUSSIONS OF ASSIGNED READINGS

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# MARGINALIA?

That was then...

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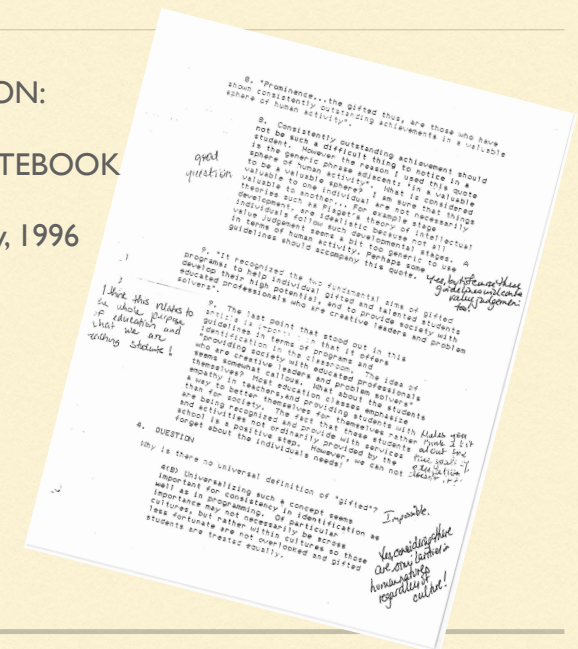
## THE PROBLEMS:

- I WASN'T PRACTICING WHAT I WAS PREACHING
- STUDENTS WEREN'T READING THE ASSIGNED READINGS BEFORE CLASS

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## THE SOLUTION: TRIPLE ENTRY NOTEBOOK

Kooy & Kanevsky, 1996



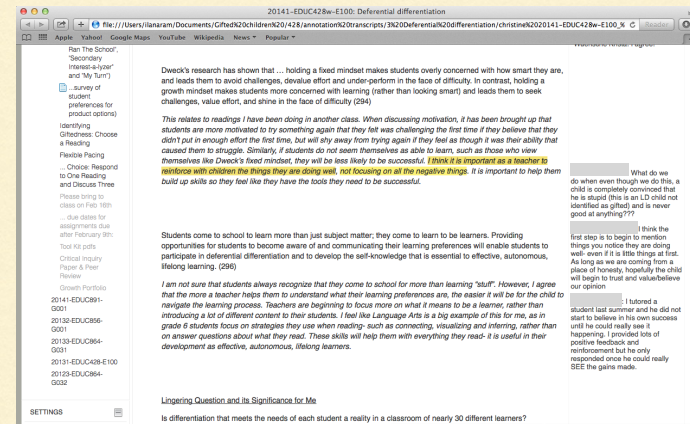
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# PROCESS

- Distribute guidelines for discussions and practice with brief text
- Select readings with 'hooks'
- Form groups of 3 or 4 students
- Each student prepares a response
- Each member of group makes at least 4 comments on each
- I moderate and join in

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# THIS IS NOW



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# A RESPONSE TO A READING

Create response in word processor:

- Summary (4 to 10 sentences)
- 4 highlights with reflections
- A lingering question with personal or professional significance

Post response on discussion forum in Moodle

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# DISCUSSING RESPONSES

- Each student makes a minimum of 6 (4) COMMENTS on each response posted by a member of their group...anywhere on it
- A comment: What "hooked" you?
  - Why is it important to you?
  - What does it make you wonder?
  - How did it make you feel and why?
  - How does the highlight reflect or conflict with your beliefs, knowledge and/or experiences?
  - Does it have implications for your practice?
  - It could be that you strongly agree or disagree with it; it could be inconsistent with what you believe or have read elsewhere
  - It could be that you'd never thought about the idea in that way before and it intrigues you....

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## SAMPLES

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## GETTING ON OUR MOODLE

- Go to the SCoPE home page @ <http://scope.bccampus.ca/>
- Under “Happening Now!” you’ll see an item about our session. Click on “hand-on space here”
- 3 options for signing on:
  1. Sign on with your BCCampus account
  2. Create a BCCampus account if you don’t have one
  3. If you don’t want to create a BCCampus account, use one of these combinations:
    - username: hanzone  
password: hanzone
    - username: hanztwo  
password: hanztwo
    - username: hanzthree  
password: hanzthree

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## TRY IT WITH “ANIMAL SCHOOL”

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## STUDENTS’ EXPERIENCE

- It was interesting to see how other people saw the same passage or sentence and how it linked to their own experience. It also slowed me down and made me spend more time examining the meaning of the some of the articles.
- I loved Marginalia because it provide us with a space to draw and discuss questions that I always find when reading a text. I liked better to read and comment on texts that I hadn’t read. I also learnt much more in this case.
- I used it to ask clarifying questions, comment on their point with my thoughts, continued a discussion that was started in my summary and generally agree with their fabulous comments!
- It was good to get support for my thoughts and ideas - made me feel like my opinions were valid. Reading other’s responses allowed me to see the readings with a different perspective.
- Seeing whether my peers agreed or disagreed provided me with my position on the different topics of giftedness provided me with a lot of insight and a way to reflect upon my thoughts.

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### Frequencies and Percentages for Conversation Moves In Comments

	Codes on comments in Reading #1		Codes on comments in Reading #2		Codes on comments in Reading #3	
	Freq	%	Freq	%	Freq	%
Acknowledging	100	29.0	106	34.6	76	28.9
Answering	9	2.6	17	5.6	10	3.8
Chit chat	17	4.9	3	1.0	1	0.4
Disagreeing	18	5.2	5	1.6	8	3.0
Extending	85	24.6	96	31.4	88	33.5
Linking	4	1.2	4	1.3	7	2.7
Paraphrasing	10	2.9	11	3.6	0	0.0
Personalizing	52	15.1	38	12.4	12	4.6
Prompting	6	1.7	3	1.0	28	10.6
Questioning	36	10.4	21	6.9	26	9.9
Quote	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0
Referring	7	2.0	2	0.7	7	2.7
Summarizing	1	0.3	0	0.0	0	0.0
Total	345	100.0	306	100.0	263	100.0

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### Frequencies and Percentages for Conversation Moves in Quotes (text selected for comments)

	Codes on quotes in Reading #1		Codes on quotes in Reading #2		Codes on quotes in Reading #3	
	Freq	%	Freq	%	Freq	%
Acknowledging	5	2.3	4	2.1	9	4.9
Answering	0	0.0	3	1.6	0	0.0
Chit chat	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0
Disagreeing	12	5.6	2	1.1	8	4.3
Extending	61	28.2	73	38.4	67	36.2
Linking	0	0.0	1	0.5	0	0.0
Paraphrasing	19	8.8	23	12.1	25	13.5
Personalizing	35	16.2	29	15.3	31	16.8
Prompting	0	0.0	2	1.1	0	0.0
Questioning	52	24.1	32	16.8	33	17.8
Quote	28	13.0	20	10.5	8	4.3
Referring	4	1.9	1	0.5	4	2.2
Summarizing	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0
Total	216	100	190	100.0	185	100.0

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## RESOURCES

Marginalia website: <http://webmarginalia.net/>

Developer: Geof Glass

Brookfield, S. & Preskill, S. (2005). Discussion as a way of teaching: Tools and techniques for democratic classrooms. San Francisco, CA: Jossey-Bass.

Kooy, M., & Kanevsky, L. S. (1996). Making meaning from assigned readings: A process for using the triple-entry notebook in teacher education. *Teaching Education*, 8(1), 45-54.

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