

Struggling with AoW/LoW?

1. The first/best thing you can do is to slow down and take your time with reading/annotating. The better and more closely you read the text, the more you will have to say about it. Aim for a minimum of eight annotations that go beyond just emotional reactions to the text.
2. The next step is to list the three main points the article (or the literature) is trying to make. These will be your sentences for the first paragraph of your reflection. This should not include direct quotes; rather, it should be put into your own words! Need a template?

Try something like this:

In _____'s article _____, the writer's first main point is _____. Then s/he explains _____. Finally, the article discusses _____.

3. Look at your annotations to write the analysis. Need a template? Try something like this:

The purpose of this piece is _____. The writer's overall tone can best be described as _____. For example (s)he _____. The writer's has organized his/her ideas by _____, which helps _____. Words such as _____ and _____ make the writing _____ (or they contribute to the _____ imagery). The writer emphasizes _____ to _____.

**** Feel free to use/edit. Just be sure that when you fill in the blanks, you don't generalize. GET SPECIFIC. Avoid vague assertions like "it helps paint a picture in the reader's head." When in doubt, ask yourself WHY? or HOW? to avoid these meaningless assertions.**

4. Finally, share your thoughts about the TOPIC. Need some ideas? Try these:
This article reminds me of the time I...
I can relate to this article because...
I find (insert topic here) infuriating/amusing/stressful/worrisome/exciting because....