Triple Entry Notetaking

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After you read a challenging text consider trying triple entry notetaking. Here’s how it works:

1. Find a passage in the reading—something you liked, hated, found significant, etc.
2. Reflect on the passage.
3. Reflect on the reflection.
4. Circle an idea or comment and read it over.
5. Freewrite about the idea.
6. Build your post from your freewriting ideas.

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| Copy Passage | Reflect on Passage | Reflect on Reflection |
|  | Reflect and freewrite  Circle a key idea | Reflect on your reflection and freewrite.  Circle an idea or comment |

I learned this idea from Dr. Lucille McCarthy at UMBC. For more details, see “Student Writing in Philosophy: A Sketch of Five Techniques” by Dr. Stephen M. Fishman. Fishman notes that triple-entry helps students “to burrow into the reading, to search for more ricochet among text, themselves, and their culture” (60).

Work Cited

Fishman, Stephen M. “Student Writing In Philosophy: A Sketch of Five Techniques.” *New Directions For Teaching & Learning 69* (1997): 53. Academic Search Premier. Web. 24 Jan. 2012.