Scoring Shared Annotation Efforts

Improving shared annotation efforts requires regularly reviewing the content that groups are creating together. Students and teachers alike can use the following rubric to judge the quality of the work done around any shared reading.

Above Average

- The highlighting on this shared reading draws attention to ideas that are essential for this group's research efforts. There is no evidence of excessive highlighting or of decisions to spotlight unimportant information.
- This group does a great job using annotations to carry on a conversation with one another. Questions are asked and answered, ideas are raised and challenged, and new thinking is generated together.
- I'm impressed because the researchers used proper grammar and spelling in all situations, making it easy to understand their ideas. There weren't any places where I struggled to understand what annotations meant.
- Overall, this shared annotation project was amazing! I learned a ton just by reading through the thoughts shared by the members of this group.

Average

- While this group has definitely highlighted valuable information, in places it was hard for me to sift through all of the highlights to figure out what exactly was important.
- Many of the annotations in this shared reading seem like first drafts to me. They include enough information to catch my attention but not enough information to really make me think.
- I see a lot of people doing a great job making their own thinking clear, but there are not many questions being asked or answered between members of this group.
- I had no trouble understanding the writing in any of the annotations added by researchers. Students used proper grammar and spelling in almost every situation—which meant that I knew exactly what they were trying to say.
- Overall, this shared annotation effort left me interested but wanting to know more.

Needs Improvement

- I was left guessing by a lot of the highlights on this reading. Adding annotations to explain the reasons that pieces of content were highlighted would have helped me.
- There were lots of playful interactions between members of this research group in the annotations that weren't related to the topic of the article.
- There wasn't a lot of meaningful interaction between group members in the annotations on this article. I would have loved to see them asking and answering questions with one another.
- There were a lot of spelling and grammar errors in the annotations around this article that made it difficult to understand just what the student researchers were trying to say.
- Overall, this shared annotation effort left me wanting more.

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Questions for Reflection

If you had to defend the score that you have given this group, what evidence from their highlights and annotations would you use? Can you find any specific highlights and annotations that support your final rating?

Which individual members of this student research group made the most meaningful contributions to their team's efforts? What was it about their contributions that were impressive to you?

What specific suggestions for improvement would you make to the members of this student research group? How can they improve their shared annotation efforts?