**Week 1, Section 3. Beyond Highlighting: Digital Reading and Annotation Skills**

What is digital literacy and why is it important? Watch this 3.42 minute video from IT Futures. If you would like to view the transcript of the video, click on the YouTube icon, and it will take you to YouTube. You can then click on the cc [closed caption] icon to run the transcript during the playing of the video.

* Video: [What is digital literacy?](https://youtu.be/ESSIcLO3Z_Q)

That you are digitally literate is proven, in part, by your participation in this online class! How can we build upon those skills to prepare you for further studies and work with digital objects, especially how to read digital materials? You can practice some skills in class to help develop them.

One method is to develop annotation skills for digital objects. While you're reading literature, you will want to develop strategies on how to make a record of your reaction to a piece of literature. You probably have practiced these annotation skills in other classes. Annotation skills include highlighting text, copying down important passages, writing questions in the margin, etc.

Because our work in the online classroom uses digital materials (rather than print books), you can develop annotation strategies to annotate digital materials, like PDFs. The following material presents a strategy on how to read and annotate in preparation for writing a paper.  This information can help you with materials in other classes as well. While annotation skills include the marking up of a piece of reading, you can develop other strategies, like reading for key words (and highlighting them) and organizing your comments in a fashion that can help you recall and locate materials.

As you're reading the next section on key words, you may want to practice the skills noted, such as highlighting or making comments. You will have further practice on these skills in the discussion for Week 1, below.

* PDF Reading: [Week One. Key Words: They’re not just for Googling](https://learn.umuc.edu/content/enforced/248322-003470-01-2178-OL1-6381/WeekOne.KeywordsnotjustforGoogling.pdf?_&d2lSessionVal=Nc2LXNgfOXLYxDJW7t6SgFntR&ou=248322)

Once you have finished this reading, move into the discussion area where you will be asked to choose a different fable, to annotate it according to this strategy, and to write an explanation.