



# Nonfiction Signposts: When I Find These I Should **STOP & NOTICE & NOTE**

Adapted from *Reading Nonfiction: Notice and Note Stances, Signposts, and Strategies* by Kylene Beers and Robert Probst



## Big Questions



What surprised me?



What did the author assume I already knew?



What changed, challenged, or confirmed what I already knew?



## Extreme or Absolute Language

What to look for

- Language that leaves **NO DOUBT, EXAGGERATES, OR PUSHES TO THE LIMIT**

What to ask yourself

- Why did the author say it like that?

What your answer tells you or helps you with

- Discovering the author's point of view or purpose **OR**
- Realizing the author is exaggerating to make you think a certain way



## Contrast & Contradiction

What to look for

- A difference between what you know and what is happening in the text, **OR**
- A difference between two or more things in the text

What to ask yourself

- What is the difference, and why does it matter?

What your answer tells you or helps you with

- Seeing details that show main idea, compare and contrast, author's purpose, inferencing, making a generalization, or noticing cause and effect



## Numbers & Stats

What to look for

- Specific numbers, number words, amounts, graphs, and charts

What to ask yourself

- Why did the author use those number or amounts?

What your answer helps you with

- Coming to a conclusion, making a comparison, seeing the details, inferring, finding facts, recognizing evidence



## Quoted Words

What to look for

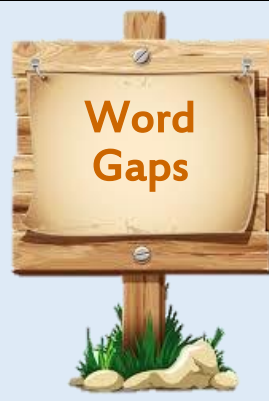
- A quoted voice of authority, a quoted personal perspective, words other than the author's being quoted (cited)

What to ask yourself

- Why did the author quote or cite this person?

What your answer helps you with/by

- Thinking about point-of-view, purpose, bias, or conclusions
- Giving you perspective, facts and opinions, or a generalization



## Word Gaps

What to look for

- Words or phrases you don't know

What to ask yourself

- Do I know this word from someplace else?
- Does this seem like language of the discipline for experts of this subject?
- Can I find clues in the sentence to help me understand the word

What your answer helps you with

- Deciding if you need to look the word up or keep reading for more information