Quick-Reference Handout for Active Reading: Marking your Text

- 1. Underline major points or important or forceful statements.
- 2. Draw vertical lines at the margin to emphasize a statement already underlined or to point to a passage too long to be underlined.
- 3. Put a star or asterisk or other doodad to emphasize the ten or dozen most important statements or passages in the book/chapter/article.
- 4. Write numbers in the margin to indicate a sequence of points made by the author in developing an argument.
- 5. Write numbers of other pages/paragraphs in the margin to indicate where else in the book/Chapter/Article the author makes the same points, or points relevant to or in contradiction of those here marked.
- 6. Circle key words or phrases.