AP Seminar Critical Reading and Annotation Protocol

**Step 1**- Scan through the text and look for credentials for the author or the source

**Step 2**- Complete a CRAAP test to evaluate the relevance and reliability of the source

**Step 3**- Read through the text thoroughly and answer the questions from the Argument Analysis Template in either annotations or on the template itself

Annotation Ideas:

1. Identify the Main Idea/Thesis/Argument, looking for key terms such as
   1. States
   2. Asserts
   3. Believes
   4. Claims
   5. Agrees
2. Identify the **c**laims that the author uses to support the main idea and the connections between them, label the line of **r**easoning- including key phrases such as:
   1. Because
   2. For example
   3. Explains
   4. Therefore
   5. Supports
   6. Since
   7. Though

3. Note any **e**vidence used to support those claims such as

1. Statistics
2. Graphs
3. Charts
4. Quotes from experts
5. Testimonials
6. Anecdotes
7. Case studies
8. References
9. Sources

**Step 4:** After reading to understand and “accept” the argument, now REPEAT, looking at the argument from a critical standpoint, reading to argue against the claim.

-Look for “holes” in the argument, places where a missing perspective, credential, or lens may have been helpful.

**Helpful hint**: Use 2 different pen/highlighter colors for each “reading”. Green for round 1, pink for round 2, for example.