Figure 3.4 | **Annotation Charts**

Annotations

- Underline the major points
- Circle key words
- ! = write what caught your attention
- ? = jot down a quest.
- Draw an arrow to make a connection
- EX when the author gives an example

READ WITH A PEN
ANNOTATING MARKS
9TH -12TH

- Circle powerful words or phrases
- Underline words or phrases you do not understand
- ? Raises a question
- ! Something that suprises you
- ➡ Draw an arrow when you make a connection to text, ideas, or experiences
- EX When author provides example
- 1, 2, 3,... Numerate arguments, important ideas, or key details
- Write important thoughts in the margin

Use a BUCK$
to solve word problems

B Box the question

U Underline the info needed

C Circle the vocabulary

K Knock out un-needed info

$ solve word problems

For Word Problems in Math Class

Figure 3.5 | Annotation Chart Examples
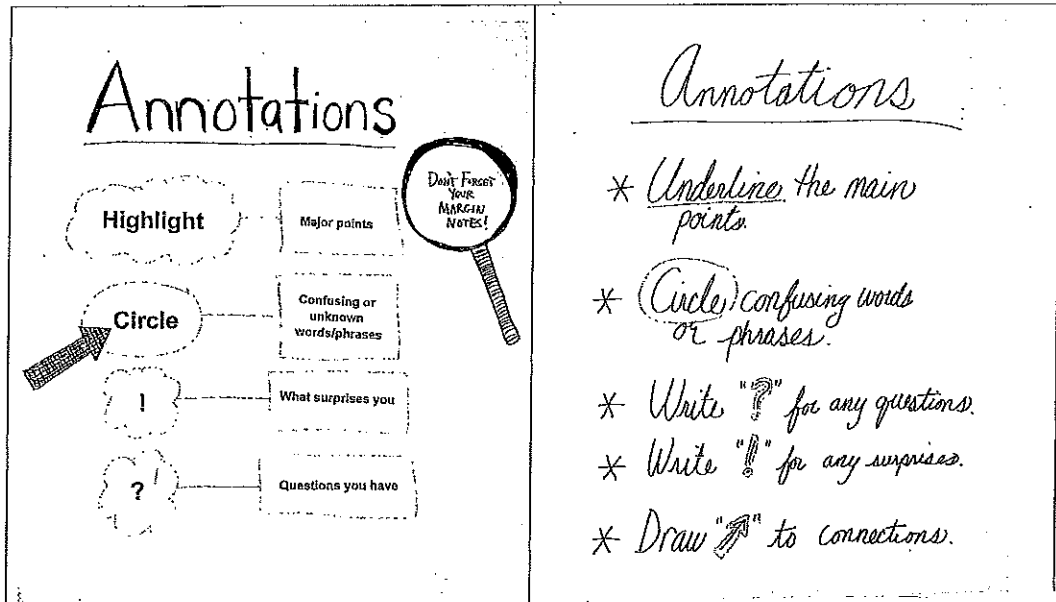
Once you have finished modeling how to annotate a text and students have practiced various text annotations, invite them to give it a try. Using a new passage, have them read and annotate. Remind them to refer to the annotation chart as needed. Have them discuss their annotations with a peer, and then spend a few minutes doing this as a class to be sure that everyone understands and is using the same system and symbols. As students grow more comfortable with reading and annotating, you might experiment with allowing multiple annotations at the same time. For example, during the same reading, you might have students circle unfamiliar words and also include questions next to ideas that are unclear. When students have become comfortable with the annotation system you use in your classroom, you may want to encourage them to add new symbols of their own, as needed.

Another mode of annotation, referred to earlier, is highlighting different features in a text with different colors. For example, students might highlight unfamiliar words in yellow, and language that identifies the author's position on a topic in green. This method of color-coding must be consistent, of course, and it must appear on the annotation chart. Colored pencils can also be used to circle and underline key words or phrases that relate to the identified purpose. They're