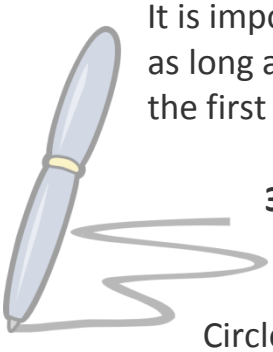
Active reading – annotate the texts

1. Number the paragraphs
Numbering each paragraph, section or stanza in the left hand margin.

2. Chunk the text.
When faced with a full page of text, reading it can quickly become overwhelming. Breaking up the text into smaller sections (or chunks) makes the page much more manageable. Draw a horizontal line between paragraphs to divide the page into smaller sections.



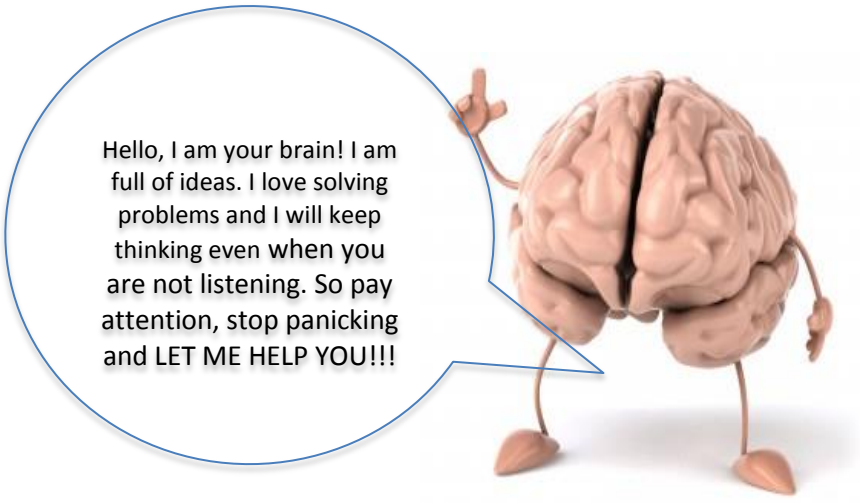
It is important to understand that there is no right or wrong way to chunk the text, as long as you can justify why you grouped certain paragraphs together, looking at the first sentence of each paragraph can help you do this.

3. Underline and circle… with a purpose.
Underline key points in the text – things that are key to the content, story, argument etc.
Circle words and phrases that have an effect on the reader

4. Left margin: What is the author SAYING?
In the left margin, summarise each chunk (in 10-words or less, if you can). The chunking allows you to look at the text in smaller segments, and summarise what the author is saying in just that small, specific chunk.

5. Right margin: Dig deeper into the text
In the right-hand margin,

· **Use a power verb to describe what the author is DOING.** (For example: Describing, illustrating, arguing, etc..) Note: It isn't enough to write "Comparing" and be done. What is the author comparing? A better answer might be: "Comparing the character's feelings with how they felt earlier ".

· **Represent the information with a picture.** This is a good way to be creative to visually represent the chunk with a drawing.

· **Ask questions.** What do you not know, not understand