

Nonfiction Signposts

Signpost in Book	Definition	Anchor Question for Signpost	Empowerment Question
Contrast and Contradiction	A sharp contrast between what we would expect and what is happening	What's the difference and why does it matter?	How are these people's actions or thoughts different from my own?
Extreme or Absolute Language	Language that leaves no doubt about a situation or seems to exaggerate or overstate a situation	Why did the author use this language?	What does this language make me think about or how does it make me feel?
Numbers and Stats	Specific quantities or comparisons to depict the amount, size, or scale	Why did the author use these numbers or amounts?	Do these numbers raise any doubts? Do they affirm what I was thinking?
Quoted Words	Comments of someone who is an expert on the subject or someone who witnesses an event	Why was this person quoted or cited and what did it add?	Did this quote raise any questions for me?
Word Gaps	Vocabulary unfamiliar to the reader	Have I seen this word? Does the context help? Does it look like a technical word?	What do I want to do now that I've recognized I don't know this word?