Reading Inventory

Overview and Goal: One of the basic tasks for this class is for you to read and respond to literature. But there is also a metacognitive layer to our work together. That is, it’s also important that you think consciously about how you read and respond. That’s the purpose of this assignment: to give you an occasion to think, through writing, about your work as a reader.

Audience: You: this assignment requires you to be reflective, which means that you are expected to learn some things as you write. And me: as your professor, I want to hear directly from you about what you notice about your reading and learning.

Procedures and Requirements
Reread your commentaries, notes, and papers in the order in which you wrote them, making notes regarding the following questions. Then type responses to each numbered question set—one paragraph per number, for a total of seven paragraphs. For EACH of your answers, be sure to point to and explain key examples from your commentaries/papers in order to support the claims you make about yourself as a reader. Use a range of examples across your answers.

1. Which strategies did you use most often as a reader? Which strategies did you use least often? What might your choice of strategies suggest about you as a reader? (Strategies include rereading, making connections, asking questions, visualizing, inferring or reading between the lines, identifying important elements of a text, reading across texts, extending ideas, critiquing ideas, synthesizing ideas, etc.)
2. What topics did you comment on most often, and which did you ignore or avoid? What might your choice of topics suggest about you as a reader?
3. How did Christian worldview matter to your reading? To what extent did writing your commentaries and getting feedback on them help you to consider new ideas and perspectives?
4. To what extent do your commentaries reflect your current thinking about these texts and authors? How have your ideas changed over time?
5. Choose a commentary that shows an important moment in your work as a reader. Discuss why it is important and how it relates to your other commentaries and readings. **Staple this commentary to your answer page.**
6. As a collection, what do your commentaries and papers show about you as a reader? What else is true about you as a reader that isn’t readily apparent through this collection of writing?
7. What goals do you have for yourself as a reader of literature, both for this coming year and for the years ahead?

Grading: This assignment is worth 10% of your final grade. Each question is worth 3 points. Quality answers will:

- Include thoughtful and accurate perspectives on your reading work for this course.
- Point to and explain a range of key examples from your commentaries/papers in order to support the claims you make about yourself as a reader.
- Apply strategies and conventions for good academic writing.