Guided Annotations

"Wanting Babies Like Themselves, Some Parents Choose Genetic Defects" by Darshak M. Sanghavi

Directions: As you read the text in the left-hand column (or after you have read it once all the way through), respond to the questions and tasks in the right-hand column.

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| Focus Text | Critical Questions & Tasks |
| **Directions for teachers:**Copy and paste the *New York Times* essay "Wanting Babies Like Themselves, Some Parents Choose Genetic Defects” by Darshak M. Sanghavi here. | **Directions for teachers:**Feel free to use the following questions and tasks in conjunction with the article. Adjust positioning as necessary.**Vocabulary**: As you read, provide a definition for each of the following words using context clues and/or a dictionary:malfunctioning1. cystic fibrosis
2. Huntington’s disease
3. defective
4. soliciting
5. tactic
6. dictates
7. willy-nilly

**Tone**: How would you characterize the tone of the piece in paragraphs 1-5.?**Tone**: Discuss the rhetorical shift that occurs in paragraph 6. What is the author trying to do here?**Line of Reasoning**: What comparison is the author making here in paragraph 10? What claim are they making with this comparison?**Line of Reasoning**: The author makes another comparison in paragraph 14. What is being compared and how valid is this argument?**Line of Reasoning**: The author has shifted largely to anecdotal evidence. Why shift to this type of evidence?**Line of Reasoning**: Describe the rhetorical shift between paragraphs 20 to 21.**Line of Reasoning**: What claim does the author conclude with? How does his evidence and reasoning build up to this claim?**Rhetorical Elements**: Identify and explain the following elements of the text:1. Purpose
2. Audience
3. Subject
4. Tone(s)
5. Author Bias
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