Annotation Worksheet

Title: ____________________________

Author(s): ____________________________

Publication Info: ____________________________

Identify the central character (the protagonist) and his or her identifying characteristics (background, goals, age/race/ethnicity, etc.):

Significant other characters (which characters will most affect the protagonist?):

Setting (place and time frame):

Pacing (leisurely? Rapid? Densely descriptive?):

Sensuality rating/level of violence/other caveats (reading level; if nonfiction, is it for elementary/middle/high school/college?)

Most important challenge faced by the protagonist:

Roadblocks to success (what is the root of the protagonist’s problem—personal characteristics, societal issues, natural disasters, etc.?):

Which of the above elements are essential to convey? Construct one sentence including these, using strong verbs, adjectives, and adverbs in thirty-five to fifty words. Avoid passive tense.

Adapted from Dorothy M. Broderick’s “How to Write a Fiction Annotation” in VOYA (February 1993), p. 333, with permission.