Annotation Guide for the State of the Union Address

Expectations: This annotation is worth a quiz grade, so 15% of Q3. I expect you to follow this guide (adapted from the guide I gave you) and you NEED to annotate the entire piece. This is due on Friday, March 1st.

* READ THROUGH AGAIN W/O MARKING AND HIGHLIGHTING
* Purpose
  + What is your purpose for reading this piece, beyond the fact that it counts as a grade? What can you learn from this? What is the intent?
* Source Information:
  + What is the context of this piece? Since it is a speech that occurs annually, where and when was it delivered? What is significant about the content of the speech and what is happening in our nation and the world today?
* Topic/Subtopic
  + Go through the piece and categorize paragraphs by topic and subtopics. Then, write what you know about these topics and any opinions/thoughts you have pertaining to them (do not need to be complete sentences, can be bulleted lists in the margin).
* Thesis
  + What is the thesis? Identify.
* Repetition, Structure, Restatement, Rhetorical Questions
  + Is there any repetition throughout this piece? Identify and analyze the purpose of the repetition. What is the structure? What is advantageous/disadvantageous in the way this speech is organized? Is anything restated multiple times? Why? Are there any rhetorical questions asked? Identify and analyze.
* Vocabulary Words and Author’s P.O.V.
  + Are there any words used that you do NOT know the meaning of? Identify and define. Examine the word choice (diction and language), tone, and syntax (the way words are placed together in sentences and paragraphs). Do you feel it has a positive or negative impact on the audience? Why or why not? Give relevant examples. Do these elements work together in harmony to strengthen or weaken the piece? When analyzing syntax, does it follow the typical subject-verb-object pattern or is it altered to achieve a lyrical, rhythmic, rhetoric or questioning effect?
* Summarize
  + Go through and briefly summarize (1-2 sentences) each of the categorized topics and subtopics you identified earlier.
* Predict
  + How do you think the claims made in this speech will play out throughout the year and the rest of his presidency?
* Formulate Opinions
  + Add in your “two cents” about the topics and subtopics you categorized and summarized. These can be short (1-2 sentences). Explain your opinion.
* Make Connections
  + Do you have any personal, world, or text-to-text connections that you can make with any of the topics/subtopics of this piece? Explain.
* Ask Questions (Clarifying, Connecting, Concluding)
  + As you read, write down the questions you have for the author. These may be clarifying (What do you mean?), connecting (pertinent to the connections you posed throughout), or concluding (questions you have after reading the sentence, paragraph, piece).
    - Sample stems: How can you make use of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_? How could \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ be put into practice? How would \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ be converted into an action plan? What are the most important/significant ideas or elements of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_? (Prioritization)What assumptions/biases underlie or are hidden within \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_? (Deconstruction)What parts of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ would be similar to/different than \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_? (Comparison-and Contrast) What would be an example of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_? (Illustrating) How can this idea be combined with \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ to create a more compete or comprehensive understanding of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_? (Integration)How can these different ideas be grouped together into a more general category? (Classification) How can these separate \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ be reorganized or rearranged to produce a more comprehensive understanding of the “big picture?” How would you judge the accuracy or validity of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_? How would you evaluate the ethical (moral) implications or consequences of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_? What specific conclusions can be drawn from this general \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_? If this general \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ were true, then it would logically follow that \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. What particular actions or practices would be consistent with this general \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_? What are the broader implications of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_? What patterns or themes emerge from \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_? What can be extrapolated or extended from this particular \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ that may have more general or universal value? What proof exists for \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_? What are logical arguments for (or against) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_? What research evidence supports (or contradicts) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_? What are the strengths/advantages and weaknesses/disadvantages of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_? How would people from different ethnic or racial groups view this \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_? How would people from different socioeconomic backgrounds be affected by \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_? How would people who differ in age or gender react to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_? How would you explain why \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ occurred? What (or who) is responsible for \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_? How would \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ affect or influence \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_? What does \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_say about a person’s values? What are the moral implications of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_? Are the expressed or professed convictions of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ consistent with actual commitments and observable actions? What might be a metaphor or analogy for \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_? What could be invented to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_? What might happen if \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_? (hypothetical reasoning)
* Reflection/Reaction/Additional Comments
  + While reading, add in any applicable reactions and comments you have. You can reflect on the piece as a whole at the conclusion (paragraph style) or can insert mini-reflections throughout.
* After Reading Paragraph
  + Answer this question in a mini paragraph “The author’s purpose for writing this is…” and provide evidence to support your claim, as well as an analysis of the purpose and evidence.