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| Directions: Read the poem below and annotate it—what stands out to you as important or creative?

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| **Blackberry Eating** *Galway Kinnell* |

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|   | I love to go out in late Septemberamong the fat, overripe, icy, black blackberriesto eat blackberries for breakfast,the stalks very prickly, a penaltythey earn for knowing the black artof blackberry-making; and as I stand among themlifting the stalks to my mouth, the ripest berriesfall almost unbidden to my tongue,as words sometimes do, certain peculiar wordslike strengths or squinched,many-lettered, one-syllabled lumps,which I squeeze, squinch open, and splurge wellin the silent, startled, icy, black languageof blackberry -- eating in late September. Verbs to Avoid:Come—came, coming, comesDo—does, did, doing, has done.Get—gotten, got, getting, getsGive—gave, giving, given, givesGo—goes, went, goingHave—had, has, havingLike—liked, likes, likingMake—made, makes, makingTake—took, taken, taking, takesTo be—is, are, was, were, etc. |

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Most common words to Avoid:

amazing
awesome
awfully
bad
beautiful
big
fine
good
great
happy
interesting
look
nice
quite
really
said
so
very
well