

Reading Strategies

Reading Tips for Academic Success



Academic Center for Excellence



Where to Begin . . .

- Find a comfortable place to study
- Keep distractions to a minimum
- * Determine the goal of the assignment. What are you supposed to learn from the reading?
- * Remember to take frequent short breaks to stretch and relax (this will minimize stress and prevent overload!)





Analyzing what you read

- Make notations throughout the text (using a pencil is a good idea because it's easier to make revisions)
- * Question what you are reading . . . what are the main points of the text?
- * Keep a dictionary nearby so you can look up unfamiliar words
- * Notice reading aids any "bolded" items or graphics are usually there for a reason





SQ3R



- * Survey
- * Question
- * Read
- * Recite
- * Review



SURVEY (S)



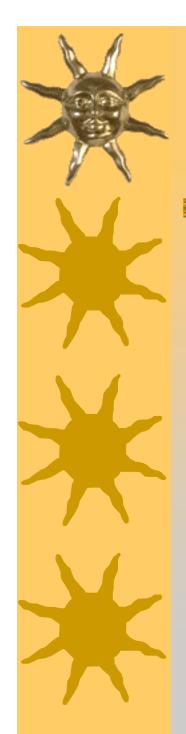
- Survey scan what you are reading
- Consider the title and read the introduction and summary to determine the important points of the reading
- Pay attention to reading aids, such as highlighted text and charts/graphs



QUESTION (Q)

- * Question determine what questions will be answered from the reading
- * Write down the questions so you can refer to them later
- * The better the question, the better the comprehension





READ (R1)



- Read each section with your questions in mind
- * Try to find the answers to your questions and maybe even form new questions!
- Write down the main points as you read
- If something doesn't make sense, read the section aloud a few times



RECITE (R2)

- * After each section, recall your questions and try to answer them without looking at the text
- ★ Don't move on to the next section until you can answer the questions from memory





REVIEW (R3)



- * Upon finishing the essay, chapter, etc., review the main points of the reading
- Try to answer all of your questions from memory
- ★ If you can't answer all of the questions, look back and refresh your memory
- * Gain something from the reading . . . Actively learn!! Don't just skim through the text . . .



What you will accomplish . . .

- * A greater understanding and appreciation of the material
- ★ The ability to engage your mind in active thought processes
- Development of critical thinking skills

