

Reading Strategies

Know how to think as you read (all of the strategies provide more special aspects to the thinking process)

1. **Look Ahead.** Look only at the headings and illustrations on one page. Then turn to the next page and do the same. Spend only about ten seconds examining each page and read only the title, headings, and subheadings in bold type. This prepares your mind for where you text is leading. It is like a road map before driving off in the family car. **Think** about what is this author trying to tell me or I wonder what this story is about. Then start to read word for word the text.
 - Example: I see from the title that I'm going to be reading about drums. Then the subtitle catches my attention. "You'll feel better if" says . I wonder how a drum will make me feel better.
2. **Look Back.** Stop reading. Start reviewing. Having read the passage, go back to the beginning and study its headings and subheadings one more time. **Think** as you read: What was the author trying to tell me in this section? Don't expect to remember what you've read unless you go back over it, flipping the pages from front to back.

Know how to Overcome Boredom

3. **Jump to the end.** For any passage, (1) read the first paragraph. (2) Skipping over the middle paragraphs, read the last paragraph. (4) Go back to start over at the beginning. Now read all paragraphs in the correct order from first to last. By doing this your mind will automatically want to fill the gap between the first and last paragraph.
 - You will ask yourself: How does the end of the story connect to the beginning? **A thinking mind asks questions**
4. **Ask a question.** Make yourself curious by posing a question about an article's title and subtitle.
 - What made him so famous? How could a wolf be smarter than a dog? I wonder if this is about an old ship and an old war? I wonder where this unusual hawk hangs out.-----
5. **Make a mental movie.** After completing the jump strategy, make a movie in your mind. Pretend that you are either a movie director or script writer who wants to base a movie on the article or story.

- For example what scene might your camera shoot after reading an article entitled “The worlds heaviest Wrestles”? Your mind has suddenly become curious—engaged in the story or article.

Know how to adjust to an authors style

6. Notice the organization. Be aware of the choices an author makes for organizing an article or story. Every author of every book has a personal way of using words. You must quickly adapt to a writers style, just as a batter in baseball must adapt to each pitchers fastball, slider, and curve.
 - Notice the authors organization for either presenting information or telling a story.
 - Tell a story in the first person (I did..I said).or in the third person (he did – she said)
 - lead the reader in a straight line from the first event that happens to the last event
 - start at the end of the story and move back to the beginning
 - introduce an article with some interesting event (the close up and pull the camera back to give a broad picture)
7. If you get lost, go back. Good readers often fail to understand something, and when they do, they realize it. "Wait a minute!" they say to themselves. "I didn't get that last part. Let me read it one more time." You should do the same. Whenever you read a paragraph that makes no sense to you, go back and reread it. However **do not frustrate yourself** by reading it a third time.
 - You have an advantage riding in the passenger seat. If you can't follow the author or miss a turn(misunderstand) you can always go back and reread. If you don't reread you will become even more puzzled as the author drives on to the next bend in the road.

Know how to avoid frustration

8. **Keep reading.** Get past the "vocabulary bumps." in a passage. Whenever you encounter a string of unfamiliar words or unknown place names, pause briefly and then pass right on by. In other words, keep reading. **Do not stop. Do not allow yourself to become frustrated.** Many times you can make a good guess about the terms meaning by examining its context.

9. **Take a short break.** If frustration on a reading test begins to jangle your nerves, look away from the page. Stare at the ceiling and count to ten—or fifteen at most. Then get back to work. The idea is to be patient with the author and yourself—but keep reading to the end.
10. **Take control.** Don't allow a long test to wear down your patience by dragging you along from one reading to the next. Go on the offensive! Come into the test with a plan based upon your own strengths as a reader and thinker.
 - What strategies have worked for you? Remember your choices and use them, as needed.
 - Look ahead
 - Look back
 - Jump to the end
 - Ask questions
 - Make a mental movie
 - Follow the organization
 - If confused, go back and reread
 - If frustrated, take a short break
 - Should you read the questions first?
 - Some go to the questions first. This Focuses their attention on exactly the information needed.
 - Some read the passage then the questions.
 - Tips to follow: Things you must do:
 - Do your best to eliminate the two weakest answers
 - If you are not sure of your answer, guess. By eliminate 2 of your answers you have a 50-50 chance of guessing correctly
 - Keep working to the end.—take a break as needed.

- Leave enough time to check your answers

It is your attitude and the above strategies that will take you to your goal

The overview of the above strategies come from the work of Steven Jantzen –Reading To Graduate- He used the research of Cris Tovano, “ I read it but I can't Get It” Eric Jensen “The learning Brain” , Jeffrey D Wilhem “ Improving Comprehensions With Think –Aloud Str

