



READING WORKSHOP

Office of Academic Support
Furst Hall 412
646-592-4285
academicsupport.wilf@yu.edu

READING GOAL:

to become EFFICIENT, ACTIVE and CRITICAL readers

TRUE OR FALSE?

“If I always read more slowly, I will better understand difficult concepts and confusing texts.”



FALSE: Sometimes reading slowly can impair your understanding. Slow readers are more likely to miss the point or get bogged down with minute details.

FACTORS THAT REDUCE READING RATE AND COMPREHENSION

- re-reading
- distractions
- lack of reading practice

BENEFITS OF ACTIVE READING

Active readers

- are less likely to slip into automatic pilot.
- use powerful multisensory strategies.
- read for comprehension.
- read to remember.

ESSENTIAL STRATEGIES FOR TEXTBOOK READING

- Begin with a clear intention to understand what you read.
- Be inquisitive.
- Relate new information to prior knowledge.
- Manage your textbook reading time effectively.



ESSENTIAL STRATEGIES FOR TEXTBOOK READING (continued)

1. SURVEY THE TEXT

- It helps the reader to understand the bigger picture.
- It activates prior knowledge.
- It sets the stage to create new associations.
- It enhances motivation and interest.
- It boosts confidence.
- It provides information about length and difficulty of the reading material.
- It helps set realistic goals to manage time effectively.

1A. HOW TO SURVEY THE TEXT

- Read titles and subtitles.
- Read the introduction or first paragraph.
- Read headings.
- Read the first sentence under the heading.
- Read the summary.
- Be mindful of typographical and graphic aids.

2. FORMULATE QUESTIONS

Formulating questions is an active reading strategy that promotes purposeful reading, activates curiosity, improves comprehension and helps sustain attention.

3. ADJUST YOUR READING RATE

Adjust your reading rate to the difficulty of the text and the purpose of your reading. Effective readers adjust their reading rate, while ineffective readers apply the same rate to everything they read.

3A. REASONS TO INCREASE YOUR READING RATE

- In college, you have limited time and a great deal of reading.
- Reading too slowly reduces comprehension.
- Reading too slowly decreases interest in the text.

3B. YOU CAN INCREASE YOUR READING RATE WHEN:

- the material is simple.
- the content is repetitive.
- you are familiar with the information.
- you are not reading to remember facts and details.
- you are searching for specific information.

STRATEGIES TO INCREASE READING RATE AND COMPREHENSION

- Read in a quiet distraction-free environment.
- Set your purpose for reading.
- Move a pen along the line of text to increase the number of words within a chunk.
- Monitor your comprehension.
- Answer the questions that you developed prior to reading and confirm that you can answer them.
- Predict possible test questions.
- Take practice quizzes.

IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO LEARN MORE ABOUT READING SKILLS

Visit the Office of Academic Support

Furst Hall 412

646-592-4285

academicsupport.wilf@yu.edu

