



Reading Comprehension

Reading comprehension refers to your ability to understand what you read. True comprehension goes beyond parroting facts and figures to being able to apply concepts to new ideas and situations. The following are some suggestions to help boost your reading comprehension.

1. Read as Much as You Can

More than any other factor, what you already know influences comprehension by giving you a frame of reference for what you read.

2. Think Analytically

Ask yourself questions: Do I understand the sentence, paragraph, or chapter I just read? Are the ideas and supporting examples clear? Could I explain the material to someone else? Could I apply the concepts to another topic or situation?

3. Build Vocabulary

The larger your vocabulary, the more material you will understand without checking a dictionary or guessing.

4. Look for Order and Meaning in Seemingly Chaotic Reading Materials

Textbook study techniques such as the SQ3R can help make meaning for reading materials.

5. Think Positively – Instead of telling yourself that you cannot understand, tell yourself, *I can learn this material. I am able to complete every reading assignment.*