

Effective Reading STRATEGIES

PURPOSE

Before you start reading, spend 5-10 minutes determining why you are reading the material. You have to know why you are reading a book to study effectively. Are you supposed to be looking for general concepts or specific information? How does this tie into the instructor's intentions?



SURVEY

Look quickly through the entire item you are reading and find out how it is organized, e.g. topic and chapter headings, etc. This allows you to understand the author's purpose, and what material is relevant to what you are studying. This can be a valuable way to save time.



QUESTION

Determine what questions you need to have answered before you read the material: what problems or topics are of concern to you? You will learn better if you are actively searching for answers to particular problems, and you will be better able to ration your time while reading.



5 R'S

If you've followed all of the advice until now, you're ready to read. Do your reading with the purpose and questions in mind. Mentally recite what you learned to remember it better. Outline what you have learned in writing. When you're done, answer your questions and think about what you've read. Review the material within 24 hours to cement the knowledge into your memory with repetition. Do not reread it, but review your notes and memories. These are the 5 R's- Read, Recite, (w)Rite, Reflect, and Review.

