



Active vs. Passive Textbook Readers

Are you an "Active" or "Passive" reader? To find out, check the reading strategies you regularly use.

	Active, Efficient Textbook Readers	Passive, Inefficient Textbook Readers
Before Reading	<input type="checkbox"/> Know their purpose for reading <input type="checkbox"/> Activate prior knowledge of topic <input type="checkbox"/> Choose appropriate reading strategies <input type="checkbox"/> Focus attention on reading to be done <input type="checkbox"/> Survey the text and write questions <input type="checkbox"/> Ask: What do I already know? <input type="checkbox"/> Ask: What do I want to learn?	<input type="checkbox"/> Read without considering how to approach the text <input type="checkbox"/> Do not know why they are reading the text
During Reading	<input type="checkbox"/> Focus on constructing meaning from text <input type="checkbox"/> Find something of interest in the topic <input type="checkbox"/> Use prior knowledge to predict and anticipate what will come next <input type="checkbox"/> Think about the text while they read <input type="checkbox"/> Monitor their comprehension regularly <input type="checkbox"/> Organize information into pieces <input type="checkbox"/> Question text's assumptions <input type="checkbox"/> Regularly use fix-up strategies when they do not understand <input type="checkbox"/> Read in meaningful word groupings <input type="checkbox"/> Make decisions about meanings without being certain <input type="checkbox"/> Rely on context clues to figure out meanings of words <input type="checkbox"/> Develop concept maps showing relationships - visualize concepts <input type="checkbox"/> Underline, mark and circle main ideas <input type="checkbox"/> Take notes in their notebook <input type="checkbox"/> Ask: What am I learning? <input type="checkbox"/> Ask: Where am I confused?	<input type="checkbox"/> Read to get it done <input type="checkbox"/> Start reading without looking at titles and subtitles <input type="checkbox"/> Read without understanding text <input type="checkbox"/> Do not realize they aren't understanding text <input type="checkbox"/> Read one word at a time and fixate on each word <input type="checkbox"/> Read without thinking about definitions of unfamiliar words <input type="checkbox"/> Unable to decide on meaning unless meaning is very clear <input type="checkbox"/> Do not monitor their comprehension <input type="checkbox"/> Seldom use fix-up strategies when comprehension fails <input type="checkbox"/> Do not ask questions regarding how much they are comprehending <input type="checkbox"/> Do not know what to do when comprehension is lost <input type="checkbox"/> Do not write in the text or take notes in their notebook <input type="checkbox"/> Can't wait to finish
After Reading	<input type="checkbox"/> Reflect on what was read - process ideas <input type="checkbox"/> Evaluate text and own comprehension <input type="checkbox"/> Summarize major concepts <input type="checkbox"/> Organize ideas for future study <input type="checkbox"/> Seek additional information - curiosity <input type="checkbox"/> Ask: Did I learn what I wanted? <input type="checkbox"/> Ask: What do I still want to know?	<input type="checkbox"/> Stop reading without further thinking <input type="checkbox"/> Do not know what they have read <input type="checkbox"/> Do not follow up with a comprehension self-check <input type="checkbox"/> Do not identify and organize main ideas for future study



SQ3R Textbook Studying Method

To read effectively, it's important that you read with a purpose. The SQ3R Textbook Studying Method helps students:

- ✓ select the important ideas and facts in a text
- ✓ understand a text
- ✓ retain information you need to learn
- ✓ make important information easy to review

S Survey

Flip through the chapter and read the major headings. If there are questions, or if there's a summary of the chapter, read that as well. If there are no headings, read the first sentences of each paragraph. This will give you an overview of the text.

Spend 2 – 5 minutes surveying the text.

Q Question

Turn each heading into a question, or write a series of questions you have about the material you're about to read. You should be able to come up with a good set of questions based on your survey.

Spend 5 – 10 minutes writing your questions.

R Read

Read the text with the purpose of answering the questions you wrote. Actively search for the main idea; don't expect it to jump off the page!

This should take about 20% of your study time.

R Recite

Write the answers to your questions in your own words and recite them out loud.

This will take the bulk of your study time: 70 – 80%.

R Review

Review the notes you took on the chapter often until you are certain you understand and know the information.

Spend 5 – 10 minutes reviewing your notes.