

# Reading Strategies

**Are you saying to yourself the following when reading/studying:**

1. I don't care about the topic?
2. I can't relate to the topic?
3. I daydream and my mind wanders?
4. I can't stay focused?
5. I just say the words so I can be done.
6. I get bored.

**These comments are indicative of the following types of reading confusion:**

1. The inner voice inside the reader's head stops its conversation with the text, and the reader only hears their voice pronouncing the words.
2. The camera inside the reader's head shuts off, and the reader can no longer visualize what is happening as you read.
3. The reader's mind begins to wander, and they catch themselves thinking about something far removed from the text.
4. The reader cannot remember or retell what they have read.
5. The reader is not getting his clarifying questions answered.
6. Characters are reappearing in the text and the reader doesn't recall who they are.

## Types of Voices

1. Reciting Voice: The voice a reader hears when s/he is only reciting the words and not drawing meaning from the text.
2. Conversation voice: The voice that has a conversation with the text. It represents the reader's thinking as s/he talks back to the text in an interactive way. The voice can take two forms:
  - a. Interacting Voice: The voice inside the reader's head that makes connections, asks questions, identifies confusion, agrees and disagrees with ideas. This voice deepens the readers understanding of the text.
  - b. Distracting voice: The voice inside the reader's head that pulls him/her away from the meaning of the text. It begins a conversation with the reading but gets distracted by a connection, a question, or an idea. Soon the reader begins to think about something unrelated to the text.
3. IT IS ALL ABOUT LISTENING!

## Strategies to "Fix Up" Voice Confusion

1. Make a connection between the text and: your life, Your knowledge of the world, another text or class.
2. Make a prediction
  - a. If a prediction does not happen, review readings and adjust predictions to gain a better understanding.
3. Stop and think about what you have already read.
4. Ask yourself a question and see if you can answer it.
  - a. Who, what, when, and where, question.

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5. Reflect in writing on what you have read.
  6. Visualize
  7. use print conventions
  8. Retell what you've read
  9. Notice patterns in text structure
  10. Adjust your reading rate: slow down or speed up.
- MONITOR HOW YOU ARE READING AND MAKE ADJUSTMENTS
  - When stuck, do not give up. When a work is not familiar or unknown, write it on a post-it-note, look it up in a glossary, or dictionary or ask someone if they know it.

## Some Reading Strategies:

<b>1. Read with purpose</b>
a. SQRRR (Helps establish a purpose)
i. Survey the text
ii. Formulate Questions that could be answered in the reading (Turn headings into questions)
iii. Read the text
iv. Recite to someone or to yourself without the book the information
v. Review what you have read to improve retention
<b>2. Marking the text</b>
a. Highlight or mark the topic sentence or main point.
b. Highlight or mark what is confusing to you and what you need clarification.
NOTE:
• Use a <b>sticky note</b> to mark areas of confusion or main points if you do not want to mark the text.
• Use different highlighter colors-one for main point and one for areas of confusion.
c. Use shorthand notation in margins:
i. BK- Background Knowledge
ii. ? – Question you may have.
iii. I – Inference by the reader draws from text
<b>3. Double Entry Diary</b>
a. Draw or fold paper length wise (like a hot dog bun)
b. On the left side of fold or line, write the main points of summary of what you are reading.
c. On the right side of the paper write thinking options

<b>EXAMPLE</b>	
<b>Left Column</b>	<b>Right Column</b>
List interesting facts	What is the author's main point?
Confusing part in text	What did I do to get unstuck
Term/Vocabulary	What I know about the term
	How does the information relate to previous knowledge?