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## SQ3R Reading Method

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Use this method to increase your comprehension of textbooks, articles, research studies, and manuals. The acronym SQ3R reminds you of the elements of this reading method – Survey, Question, Read, Recite, Review – that will help you become a more effective reader.

### **Survey (also called skimming and scanning)**

Survey the title: Think about what you may already know about that topic.

Survey the introduction: It gives you an idea about how the chapter is organized, and what you will be learning.

Survey anything in bold: Subtitles are labels. Other bolded items may be definitions that you will need to know.

Survey the pictures, charts and graphs: Glance at these to pick out things that seem interesting or informative.

Survey the summary at the end: This will review and give you the key points in the chapter.

Survey the questions at the end of the chapter: These will help focus your attention on the main points.

Survey your course syllabus/course presentation and see what topics the Instructor is focusing on.

### **Question**

Write "Who, What, Where, When, and Why" questions for each subtitle or definition (you can do this as you progress through the reading).

### **Read**

Read to answer the first question (this answer will become your notes). Look for keywords.

### **Recite**

Recite the answer to your question out loud. Do this as if you are explaining to a study partner.

Write this down in your own words – these are your notes.

Repeat for each question that you created.

### **Review**

Stand back and look at the chapter as a whole.

How do the ideas and facts you learned from each subsection fit together?

Review your notes to be sure they make sense to you.

### **Practise!**

Open your textbook to the chapter you are reading and complete the steps below.

**SURVEY:** After surveying the chapter, what do you think it will be about?

**QUESTION:** Turn the 1st subtitle into a question.

**READ:** The section to answer the question.

**RECITE:** Answer the question in your words. (Repeat for the rest of the chapter)

**REVIEW:** After reading the chapter, what new things did you learn?

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