



Reading Strategy

SQ3R: Survey-Question-Read-Recite-Review

Use the [SQ3R](#) reading strategy to give purpose to reading a text and to improve material recall.

Survey

- Preview the reading to get an idea of what the chapter or article is about
- Underline: titles, headings, captions, and words in bold/italic to build background knowledge

Question

- Create questions to provide focus toward reading the text
- Turn the underlined text features into questions to give purpose to the reading

Read

- Actively read the text by reading one section or paragraph at a time
- Identify and underline the main idea of each paragraph
- Write or highlight the answers to the questions created

Recite

- Rewrite a short summary about the information from the text to check for understanding
- Practice recalling what was comprehended in the section or paragraph of the text by rephrasing the information

Review

- Study over several sessions. For example, review for 10-minutes per day
- Re-read any notes, written summaries, or highlighted text
- Self-test by answering questions created from the reading

Got an Academic Coach?

Request a 25-minute [online tutoring](#) session with our Academic Coaches and get support with study skills needs. “Work Smarter, Not Harder” this semester.

References

“DuPont Library: Reading Strategies: SQ3R.” *SQ3R - Reading Strategies - DuPont Library at University of the South*, library.sewanee.edu/reading/sq3r.