

## **SQ3R Reading Strategy** (Survey, Question, Read, Recite, Review)

This strategy may seem time consuming initially, but it goes quickly once you are accustomed to using it.

### **Before you read, Survey the chapter:**

- the title, headings, and subheadings
- captions under pictures, charts, graphs or maps
- review questions
- introductory and concluding paragraphs
- summary

### **Question while you are surveying:**

- Turn the title, headings, and/or subheadings into questions
- Read questions at the end of the chapters or after each subheading
- Ask yourself, "What did my instructor say about this chapter or subject when it was assigned?"
- Ask yourself, "What do I already know about this subject?"

### **When you begin to Read:**

- Look for answers to the questions you first raised
- Answer questions at the beginning or end of chapters
- Reread captions under pictures, graphs, etc.
- Note all the underlined, italicized, bold printed words or phrases
- Study graphic aids
- Reduce your speed for difficult passages
- Stop and reread parts which are not clear
- Read only a section at a time and recite after each section

### **Recite after you've read a section:**

- Ask yourself questions aloud about what you have just read, or summarize (in your own words) what you read
- Take notes from the text but write the information in your own words
- Underline or highlight important points you've just read
- Reciting: The more senses you use the more likely you are to remember what you read (seeing it, saying it, hearing it, writing it)

### **Revision: an ongoing process**

- Reviewing the material regularly brings it from your short term into your long term memory
- Create flashcards with each term and its definition and review them regularly until you really know them (they are part of your knowledge foundation)
- Ask yourself how you've been able to use that information (connecting it to real life)

Based upon Robinson, Francis Pleasant. (1970) Effective study. New York: Harper & Row.