



Improving Your Reading Comprehension

Pre-Reading

- What is the title of the chapter?
- Make a prediction about what this chapter will be about.
- Read chapter preview or summary.
- Do you know anything about this topic already?
- What are the subheadings listed in this chapter?
- For each subheading, **write a statement** describing what you think the section will discuss (based on the subheading).
- Are there any relevant **visuals, graphs, or charts**?
- What are the **boldface** words in this chapter?
- Why do you think your instructor asked you to read this?
- **Write 3 questions** you would like to have answered from this chapter.

During Reading

- Be active (**take notes**, read aloud, etc.).
- Set a timer and stop after 20–25 minutes and take a 5-minute break. Before you begin reading again, think about/process what you were reading.
- Skip around in the text to find relationships among ideas.
- Use **context clues, charts, tables, and pictures** to help you understand the information.
- When you come across unknown vocabulary, try to guess what the word means based on content, and **circle words** to come back to later if you need to. Don't fixate too long on one word because it could cause you to lose your momentum.
- **Make notes** in the margins.
- While reading the chapter, **write** symbols next to the sentences as you think they are necessary. **Construct your own code** for things that you agree/disagree with, are noteworthy, are confusing, etc.
- **Find 2 things** your instructor might put on the next test.

Post Reading

- Looking back, have the questions you wanted answered by the chapter been answered?
- **Write** a brief summary of the chapter you just read.
- Revisit your notes and **add more information** to key concepts as necessary.
- If needed, reread to increase understanding of select passages.