

SO MUCH READING, SO LITTLE TIME!

STRATEGIC READING I

Adapted from Chapter One of *Grad School Essentials* by Dr. Zachary Shore, University of California Press, 2016 (8-39)

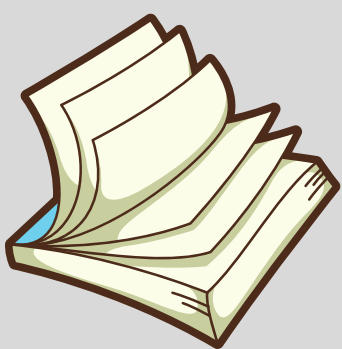


WHAT IS STRATEGIC READING?

This is an active reading method that shows how to quickly extract an author's argument and structure from a text. It develops reading comprehension, enhances critical thinking skills, and saves time!

STEP 1: ANALYZE TITLE(S) FOR CLUES TO THE ARGUMENT

This may include the main title, subtitle, section headings, and/or table of contents. Do these titles give clues that "preview" the topic and the author's main idea?

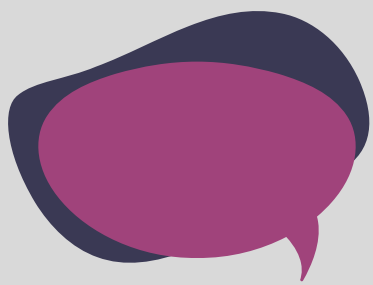


STEP 2: READ THE CONCLUSION FIRST

Read the conclusion for clues to the argument. **Read, restate, and write down** the last paragraph or sentence of the conclusion. Next, go to the beginning of the conclusion and read from there. This will give you an idea of the author's main point.

STEP 3: CHECK THE INTRODUCTION

Go to the introduction. Based on what you found in the conclusion, is your understanding of the main point correct in the introduction? If so, great! If not, keep looking.



STEP 4: READ AND RESTATE THE OPENING SENTENCES AS YOU SKIM

Read, restate, and write down the opening sentences of paragraphs or sections that you need to skim. This step determines whether or not to spend time reading the entire paragraph.

STEP 5: CONSIDER IF THE WORK IS WORTH READING IN FULL

If Step 4 shows that an entire paragraph is important enough to read, read it from beginning to end. Follow Steps 4-5 for the first paragraph of each new section.



For more on Strategic Reading, see the links below or make an appointment with a writing coach!

- [CRITICAL THINKING](#)
- [RESIDENT WORKSHOPS](#)
- [FILMED AND WEB-BASED WORKSHOPS](#)
- [MEET WITH A WRITING COACH](#)

