

READING STRATEGIES

STRUGGLING WITH YOUR READING? TRY A FEW OF THESE STRATEGIES.
YOU WILL BE ABLE TO GET MUCH MORE FROM YOUR EFFORT!

📖 *Slow down.*

📖 Reread.

📖 Read out loud when possible.

📖 Vocabulary troubles?

- ? Look up any words that are causing problems and substitute a word you **DO** know.
- ? Skip a word you don't know and see if the writer explains it later on in the text.
- ? Underline or circle important words or words you do not understand and need more information about.

📖 Track with your finger across the page, following every word. As your reading skills develop, track down the left side of the page. (Already a solid reader? Tracking down the left side is also a speed reading technique!)

📖 Restate or paraphrase into your own words. Do this **ALOUD**.

📖 Summarize each paragraph/page/section before continuing.

📖 Think about anything else you may know that you could relate to this new information.

📖 Check your understanding with someone else's. Discuss it.

📖 Ask yourself questions as you go. Try to predict what is coming next.

📖 Try to visualize what the text is explaining. If you can see it, you can understand it better.

📖 Listen to the book/text on your ipod/phone. YouTube and Audible both have a lot of our English texts. Google scholar has a lot of your textbooks.

📖 Use sticky notes or a piece of binder paper to record important ideas, events, and questions you have about each chapter/section. Review your sticky notes/notes right before the bell rings.

📖 Struggling on quizzes?

- ? Write down who, what, when, where, and why - as often as those elements change in a book. These are how teachers write quiz questions; thus, if you know that info you'll do well.
- ? Look for anything that is repeated (a statement, phrase, idea); you'll probably be tested on that.
- ? Take the SparkNotes.com quizzes. Notice what's **NOT** there; it'll probably be a question! (FYI: Many English teachers look at those quizzes and design theirs so that students can't read SparkNotes instead of the book.)

📖 If your teacher provides you with study questions, do a good job of answering them. (Don't just do them to get them done.)

📖 Read SparkNotes (before and after reading the text). Reading these chapter summaries is not enough for a full understanding of the text, but it can aid in comprehension. (Note: You can't use Spark Notes as a replacement for reading the text.)