

## Introduction

In this unit, you will learn about and practise applying various reading skills/strategies critical for academic success - it is through the words of others that we are introduced to new ideas and are able to reflect on them. In your time at university, you will need to use different reading strategies, which depend on what you are reading, and why. If you trying to find specific information, gain a general understanding of a text, or understand the material in depth, you will use specific strategies. Clarity about your purpose for reading will help you do so effectively. Reading requires concentration, so make sure that you have sufficient time and a quiet place in which to do so.

After working through the content of this unit will be able to understand how to:

1. Read purposefully, selectively, interactively and critically.
2. Use various reading strategies before, during and after reading. These include:
  - Skimming (reading rapidly in order to get a general overview/find the main ideas/get a sense of the overall logical structure of material)
  - Scanning (reading rapidly in order to find specific facts, such as keywords/numbers/names). Both skimming and scanning help you to find information easily and quickly.
  - In-depth (study) reading, which is encompassed in
  - The SQ4R Method (Survey, Question, Read, Record, Recite, Review).
3. Identify key words and phrases.

## Learning Content

We have included a variety of resources for each of the four skills and strategies you will use. The best way to become good at using these skills is to practice with a variety of texts. Think about all of the different texts you read for your qualification. Select one or a variety of texts and apply to get a better sense of how skimming, scanning, in-depth reading and the SQ4R method benefit you.

### Skimming and Scanning

Resource	Format	Time needed	Link
Reading at University	Power point	20 mins	<a href="https://drive.google.com/open?id=1I5dkWMzKnUuStHM7SJpWTfS5zfQJo5n">https://drive.google.com/open?id=1I5dkWMzKnUuStHM7SJpWTfS5zfQJo5n</a>
Academic Reading Skills	Video	7 mins	<a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DCWZ4yoFYNI">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DCWZ4yoFYNI</a>
English for Academic Purposes	Website and Podcast	10 mins	<a href="https://www.eapfoundation.com/reading/skills/skimming/">https://www.eapfoundation.com/reading/skills/skimming/</a> <a href="https://www.eapfoundation.com/reading/skills/scanning/">https://www.eapfoundation.com/reading/skills/scanning/</a>
Skimming and Scanning	video	6 mins	<a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=F1wPYHa5nUg">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=F1wPYHa5nUg</a>

### In-depth Reading

Resource	Format	Time needed	Link
Reading for Understanding – Part 1	Worksheet	20 mins	<a href="https://drive.google.com/open?id=12UhVPGAq0mLTwTB_W0BWQ6t1NTyo-E8E">https://drive.google.com/open?id=12UhVPGAq0mLTwTB_W0BWQ6t1NTyo-E8E</a>
Reading for Understanding – Part 2	Worksheet	20 mins	<a href="https://drive.google.com/open?id=1of95KZ4ltHtnS5mniCe_QizEU3jyvJ0x">https://drive.google.com/open?id=1of95KZ4ltHtnS5mniCe_QizEU3jyvJ0x</a>
Note taking	Website	15 mins	<a href="https://www.eapfoundation.com/reading/notetaking/">https://www.eapfoundation.com/reading/notetaking/</a>
Active Reading	Website	15 mins	<a href="https://learningcenter.unc.edu/tips-and-tools/reading-comprehension-tips-2/">https://learningcenter.unc.edu/tips-and-tools/reading-comprehension-tips-2/</a>
Reading Comprehension tips	website	15 mins	<a href="https://learningcenter.unc.edu/tips-and-tools/reading-comprehension-tips-2/">https://learningcenter.unc.edu/tips-and-tools/reading-comprehension-tips-2/</a>

### The SQ4R method

Resource	Format	Time needed	Link
SQ4R method	pdf	10 mins	<a href="https://uwosh.edu/car/wp-content/uploads/sites/37/2018/01/SQ4R-Method.pdf">https://uwosh.edu/car/wp-content/uploads/sites/37/2018/01/SQ4R-Method.pdf</a>
SQ4R	Worksheet	20 mins	<a href="https://drive.google.com/open?id=1tWpcXx4Wy0WM3rk_10D9e0kliZ80fnvc">https://drive.google.com/open?id=1tWpcXx4Wy0WM3rk_10D9e0kliZ80fnvc</a>
Effective Reading with SQ4R	Video	6 mins	<a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ziofH7N8ZOE">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ziofH7N8ZOE</a>

### Additional Resources

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DbMlIPgqXB8&feature=emb\\_logo](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DbMlIPgqXB8&feature=emb_logo); (SQ4R: Strategic Reading Activities for the Classroom).

[https://libguides.ucmerced.edu/reading\\_scholarly\\_articles/reading\\_strategies](https://libguides.ucmerced.edu/reading_scholarly_articles/reading_strategies) (How to Read a Scholarly Article: Key Reading Strategies).

### Summary

Purposeful, critical reading is fundamental to success at university. In this unit, you were introduced to, and had the opportunity to apply, relevant reading strategies. These are: skimming, scanning, in-depth (study) reading, and the SQ4R Method. You also learned to identify key words and phrases to help you make notes from a text. Dedicating sufficient time and effort to practising your reading will ensure that it improves.