

Exploring and Planning

The SQ3R Method



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The **SQ3R method** is a five-step process designed to help you get the most out of your reading. It might take a bit of work at first, but keep at it and you'll notice improvements in your comprehension and reading time. Try it out!

Survey. Before you read closely, look over the title, headings, and subheadings. Also, look at the captions under pictures, charts, graphs, or maps. Consciously predict what you think the topics will be.

Question. Based on the survey, write down questions that you feel the text will answer. Try asking questions that begin with *who*, *what*, *when*, *where*, *why*, and *how*.

Read. Read the text actively, searching for answers to the questions you have formed.

Recite. After two or so pages, stop reading and return to the headings or objects which helped you to develop your questions about the text. You might read main passages aloud, cover up the text, and summarize the section in your own words aloud, and try to answer the questions you posed aloud.

Review. Once you have finished reading the whole text, look it over once more. Seek out and reread the sections of the text which still confuse you. Identify what you feel are the main points of the text and write them down. Look at the questions you formed at the beginning and ask if your predictions were correct.

*Adapted from: *Structured Reading*, 7th Ed. (2009) and *The Allyn and Bacon Guide to Peer Tutoring*, 2nd Ed. (2003).