

# Study Strategy #1 - Read It

## Active Reading: Purposeful construction of meaning from text

### What is it?

Active Reading is the purposeful action of engaged reading of a text to construct meaning by making connections to existing understanding, forming examples, and regulating learning.



Employing a reading strategy enables students to engage with challenging texts. Students are more able to read beyond literal meanings to make inferential understandings of texts.



### The Strategies that Employ Read It

Exemplar study strategies that use Read it are:

- 1. Eagle and Wolf:** Fly over the text, hypothesise and connect your understanding; section the text into meaningful chunks; hunt for keywords and phrases; look for patterns (e.g. cause and effect) and summarise your understanding of the whole.
- 2. Cornell Notes:** Divide your page into two columns, leaving enough room beneath these for a summary; take free form notes in the right column as you read; following reading create key points in the right column; use these points to write a summary at the bottom of the page.
- 3. Outlining note-taking method:** Create a subject matter heading; read the text noting key points; use them to create sub-headings; reread the text making sub-points under each sub-heading.

### Best Subjects to Apply Read It

All Subjects

### What is the evidence of its impact?

A Churchie action research project (Bodell and Erbacher, 2017) employed the Eagle and Wolf strategy with Year 10 students. Over 20 weeks, students read and annotated texts and answered ten comprehension questions each week. 53% of students who used the reading strategy improved their score by one or more correct answers.

In Reading between the lines: What the ACT reveals about college readiness in reading (2006), Ferguson found that those who were the most 'college ready' were those who engage with challenging texts during high school.

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