Reading for Graduate Programs

Dr. Melissa Lopez
SOAR
California State University, Fullerton
Objectives

• Recognize the process of learning
• Understand barriers to effective reading
• Describe effective reading strategies
• Discuss components of a peer-reviewed journal articles and strategies to improve comprehension
The J-Curve
Comfort Zone
Reading Expectations in Graduate School

• Describe how reading expectations in graduate school differ from undergraduate programs?
Barriers in Reading Effectiveness in Graduate School

• What barriers exist in reading effectiveness in graduate school?
Reading Barriers in Graduate School

• Concentration
• Vocabulary
• Reading Speed
• Time
• Comprehension
• AND ability to quickly zoom in and zoom out
Reading Barriers in Graduate School

• Zoom In, Zoom Out
Solutions for Concentration Challenges

• Are you taking breaks?
• What is your reading environment?
• Can you identify distractions, specifically those that can be eliminated
Solutions for Vocabulary

• Assess whether reading level fits your capabilities
• Determine cost/benefit ratio when looking up unfamiliar words
• Don’t underestimate the
• Write down word when you look it up
Solutions for Reading Speed

• Understanding that reading speed differs for by type of reading
• Growth mindset/Recognize practice leads to improvements
Solutions for Time

• Commit to Time Management Practices
Solutions for Comprehension
Solutions for Comprehension

Three steps of reading

Preview

Read

Review
# Solutions for Comprehension

**SQ3R Method by Francis P. Robinson**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>S</th>
<th>Q</th>
<th>3</th>
<th>R</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Scan the text and pay attention to:</td>
<td>Ask yourself questions about the text.</td>
<td>Read the text actively while keeping the previous steps in the back of your mind. Write down additional questions and try to answer asked questions.</td>
<td>Repeat (aloud) in your own words what you have read. Ask your self questions about the text, explain to someone what you have read and try to write a summary.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Layout; - Chapters; - Sections; - Graphs; - Pictures; - Highlighted words;</td>
<td>Ask yourself what you already know about the text and what your goal is. Try to understand what it is that the author wants to convey.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Read more: [www.toolshero.com](http://www.toolshero.com)
Reading self-questioning technique

Headings

Search

Track

Study
Review and Reinforce
Tips for Reading Journal Articles

• Read the abstract carefully
• Go from general to the particular
• Identify research questions quickly
• Be cautious with the tables and figures
• Selectively read the method and results
• Find may findings in discussion section
• Second read may be necessary
Questions