

# The SQ3R Method of Reading

## Survey

- Read the introduction and the final paragraph of the chapter.
- Look over major section headings and subtitles.
- Look at any pictures, figures, maps, or charts.
- Skim questions, key words, and summaries at the end of the chapter.
- Create a context for remembering information and get a sense of what is important.

## Question

- Look at any study questions presented at the end of the material because they will help you pick out important information as you read.
- Create your own questions by turning titles and headings into questions.
- For each section in the chapter, ask these 4 basic questions:
  - What is the main point?
  - What evidence supports the main point?
  - What are the applications or examples?
  - How is this related to the rest of the chapters, the book, and the subject matter?

## Read

- Read the section actively and identify the main idea in each section.
- Search for the answers to the study questions and your generated questions.
- Make notes in the margins to create your own organization.

## Recite

- After reading each section, recite in your own words the main points and your answers to the questions without looking at the textbook.
- Recite to remember.

## Review

- Go back and highlight or underline the main points in the section.
- Add more notes in the text and margin.

## Strategies to Modify the SQ3R Method of Textbook Reading

- You do not need to use this method for all reading assignments, but it is most helpful with difficult textbooks.
- Select steps you find helpful and omit others.
- Modify steps as needed to make the method an efficient study tool for your needs.
- **Overall, the goal is to understand and remember the important points of the chapter so that you can answer questions and apply the information.**



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