

Active Reading Guide

Class:

Title of Reading:

Date:

Phase 1: Before Reading

1. Review the Reading (5 minutes).
2. Access Your Background Knowledge (5 minutes). What Do You Already Know About This Topic?

What knowledge do you already have about this material? This includes all key terms and ideas, background information, examples, your previous experience, information you learned during previous lectures for this course, and information you learned in other classes. Be sure to write down anything that you can think of. The more information the better!

3. Establish Your Goals for Reading (5 minutes). What Do You Want to Know?

Why did the instructor assign this reading? What knowledge/information should you leave the reading with? What are you hoping to gain from this reading experience?

4. On a separate piece of paper or on the “Important Concepts List” handout, make a list of key terms and important concepts that stick out to you (10 minutes).

Skim the chapter and make note of headings, key terms, and anything that stands out to you or seems important.

5. Write Down Your Questions (2 minutes).

What concepts do you want to learn more about? After skimming the reading selection, what questions do you have about the material or concepts? Is anything confusing?

Phase 2: Read

Read and take notes. Notate particularly important information.

Phase 3: After Reading

Summarize what you learned by completing the following questions:

Pick Out the Important Information. What Did You **Learn**?

1. What are the key ideas, concepts, and theories in this chapter/section? How would you define them? *Add to your “Important Concepts List” from Phase 1, Question 4.*
2. Why are these key ideas, concepts, and theories important? (Remember to answer the why and how. E.g. *Why does this process work this way? How does it work? What changes if I add or take away this factor/element, etc.*). *Add to your “Important Concepts List” from Phase 1, Question 4.*
3. Visually organize the information to help explain relationships and connections between concepts. (word lists, concept maps, charts, pictures, etc.). *Draw on a separate piece of paper.*

Simulate the Test

Create your own self-quiz questions that will help you think more deeply about the material.

Ex: How are marine terraces formed? Where are they found and why? What are common characteristics of terrestrial planets? Describe the differences between igneous, sedimentary, and metamorphic rocks. What are the implications of Theory X?

1.

2.

3.