

## Cooperative Learning Techniques

### ► Reading with a Partner

Reading with a partner is a strategy that can help you understand what you read and point out where more explanation is needed.

1. **First read the text silently by yourself. Use self-adhesive notes to mark those parts of the text that you do not understand.** For example, you might have difficulty with some of the material about quantum numbers in Section 2 of Chapter 4, while another student understands quantum numbers but has trouble with electron configurations in Section 3.
2. **Work with a partner to discuss the passages each of you marked.** Take turns listening and trying to clarify the difficult passages for each other. Together, study the related tables and illustrations and explain to each other how they relate to the text.
3. **For concepts that need further explanation, work together to formulate questions for class discussion or for your teacher to answer.**

### ► Using L.I.N.K.

The L.I.N.K. strategy stands for **List, Inquire, Notes, Know**. It is similar to the K/W/L strategy, but you work as a class or in groups.

1. **Brainstorm all the words, phrases, and ideas associated with the term your teacher provides.** Volunteers can keep track of contributions on the board or on a separate sheet of paper.
2. **Your teacher will direct you in a class or group discussion about the words and ideas listed.** Now is the time to inquire, or ask your teacher and other students for clarification of the listed ideas.
3. **At the end of the discussion, make notes about everything you can remember.** Look over your notes to see if you have left anything out.
4. **See what you now know about the given concept based on your own experience and the discussion.**

### ► Summarizing/Paired Summarizing

A summary is a brief statement of main ideas or important concepts. Making a summary of what you have read provides you with a way to review what you have learned, see what information needs further clarification, and helps you make connections to previously studied material.

Paired summarizing helps strengthen your ability to read, listen, and understand. It is especially useful when a section of text has several subdivisions, each dealing with different concepts, such as Chapter 2, Section 3 in your textbook.

1. **First read the material silently by yourself.**
2. **Then you and your partner take turns being the “listener” and the “reteller.”** The reteller summarizes the material for the listener, who does not interrupt until the reteller has finished. If necessary, the reteller may consult the text, and the listener may ask for clarification. The listener then states any inaccuracies or omissions made by the reteller.
3. **Work together to refine the summary.** Make sure the summary states the important ideas in a clear and concise manner.

### ► Discussing Ideas

Discussing ideas with a partner or in a group before you read is a strategy that can help you broaden your knowledge base and decide what concepts to focus on as you are reading. Discussing ideas after you have read a section or chapter can help you check your understanding, clarify difficult concepts, and lead you to speculate about new ideas.

