How to read a research paper

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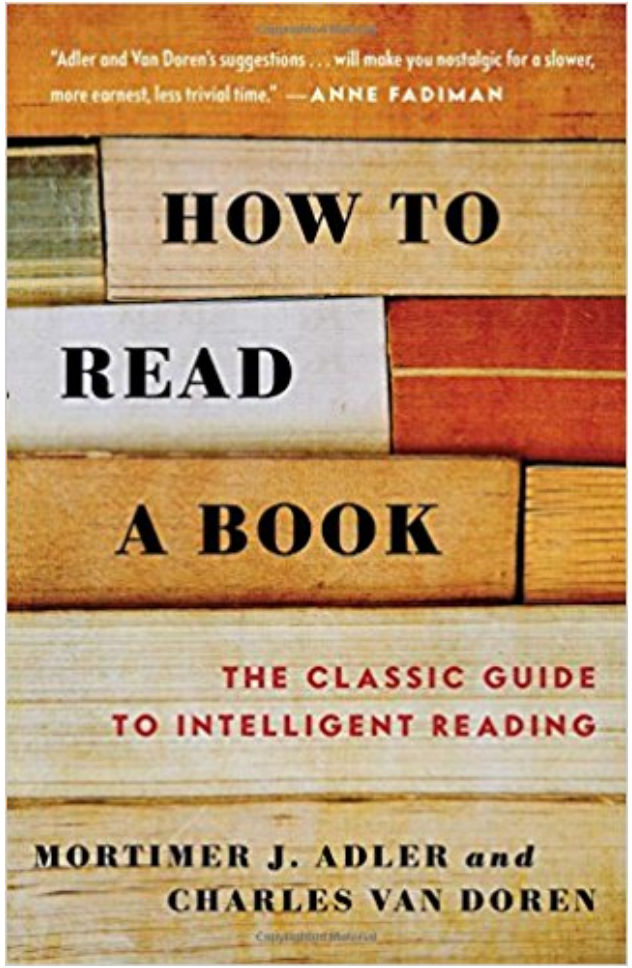
Figure: Scientific Reading



Levels of reading

- elementary
- inspectional
- analytical
- syntopical

Reading strategies

- preview and skim
  - look for structural cues: headings, sub-headings, figures or images
  - look for context: where, when, who created the text
  - attempt to infer author's purpose and audience

- read actively
  - annotate the text with your questions
  - relate text to your own beliefs and experiences
  - identify new terms, concepts or sources to explore
  - note key points or conclusions

- outline and summarize
  - outline to see structure and flow of the text
  - summarize to check understanding
  - state main points and thesis for quick review

- question and wonder
  - how does the work contribute to your inquiry
  - how might the source help as evidence, background, and argument?
  - what evidence or persuasion does the author supply (fact, opinion, assumption)?
  - how does the text relate to other readings (contradict, support, extend)?

- reread and reflect

... see references for source

Appendix

References

Adler, M. J., & van Doren, C. (1972). *How to read a book* (revised ed.). New York City, NY: Touchstone.

University Libraries, University of Colorado Boulder. (2018). *Strategy: Notetaking & Reading.* Retrieved from http://libguides.colorado.edu/c.php?g=622592&p=4336669