Introduction to Reading

Week 1 Lecture 2

- Mental activity performed to get messages from written language.
- Reading is associated with understanding and comprehension.
- It demands effort and hard work.

THE PROCESS OF READING

- Pre-Reading Stage
- While Reading Stage
- Post Reading Stage

Before reading something you must consider the following questions:

- Have I read anything on the given topic before? If yes, what did I read? Recall the previous information.

- If you have never read anything on the given topic, think of ideas and information you currently have on the given topic.

- How important and relevant is the topic to real life?

- Does it interest you?
- For a book, research journal/paper, etc, analyse the title, the writer, year of publication, publication institute, content page, etc.
- For articles, analyse the topic, the writer, the year of publication, in what book/magazine/newspaper is it published in, etc.
- Pre-reading stage should prepare you for reading. It systematizes reception of new information and broadens your thinking.

- In this stage, actual reading takes place. Read the lines as well as in between the lines.

- Connect the new information with the previously held information and ideas.

POST READING STAGE

- In this stage, you evaluate the text and form an opinion about it on the basis of sound criteria.

LEVELS OF READING

- **Literal comprehension:** (the surface level) This level deals with messages given in a direct and straightforward fashion

- **Inferential level:** (in between the lines) In many cases, writers state ideas indirectly. They may consciously or unconsciously imply certain ideas. Smart readers uncover the hidden messages as well as without inference, one can not achieve complete understanding of a text.

- **Evaluation:** : (beyond the lines) Evaluation refers to judging the content and the writer on the basis of authentic criteria. Think about what you have read.

ADVANCED READING SKILLS

- Skimming (A quick hunt for the gist)
- Scanning (A quick hunt for a specific detail)
- Critical Reading
- SQ3R (survey, question, read, recall, review)