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# READING COMPREHENSION

# Reading Passage -Comprehension-Tips- Techniques to Solve

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- To evaluate the ability to read and understand the text
- To understand the text and answer the factual and inferential question based on the text.
- To comprehend key- points
- To comprehend author's views, opinion and perspectives
- To evaluate the vocabulary comprehension power
- Reading comprehension is the ability to understand what we read where words have context and texts have meaning. Reading
- comprehension skills allow us to read proficiently, learn effectively, strategize, conceptualize, and succeed in life. Many students are left
- behind in 'formal, informal and competitive examination due to proper knowledge of "how to solve reading comprehension passage".

# *Poll question*

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*Which one of these is correct things to keep in mind while attempting Reading comprehension*

*A) Speed Beats the Odds*

*B) Just Read*

*C) Compromise on Vocabulary*



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- **Reading comprehension** is the ability to read text, process it, and understand its meaning.
- An individual's ability to comprehend text is influenced by their traits and skills, one of which is the ability to make inferences.
- Proficient reading depends on the ability to recognize words quickly and effortlessly.
- Ability of an individual to comprehend text depends upon
  - 1.prior knowledge about the subject,
  - 2.well-developed language,
  - 3.the ability to make inferences,

## POLL QUESTION

1. Floods can cause tremendous damage. They can ruin houses, roads and buildings. Floods can take down trees and cause mudslides. It often leaves mud, sand and debris behind. It can take months to clean up after a flood.

**What is the main idea?**

Floods can cause a lot of damage.

Floods cause mudslides.

Floods damage houses and roads.

# ANSWER

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# Types of Reading Comprehension:

Unseen Passage, Prose, Poem, Newspaper cutting, News, Scientific

Report -according to age group, Descriptive passage, Interactive passage , Novel, Story, Excerpt etc.

- Sub skills/ types of reading comprehension

1. Skimming
2. Scanning
3. Intensive reading
4. Extensive reading/ reading for pleasure

Basically two sub skills

- Factual Comprehension
- Inferential/Global comprehension

# Reading Comprehension Passage –Tips and Techniques to Solve

Skimming is used to quickly identify the main ideas of a text. It is quickly looking through text to get an idea of what the text concerns. Used when reading magazines , newspaper articles etc.

**Skimming** is a process of speed reading that involves visually searching the sentences of a page for clues to meaning.



# POLL QUESTION

## **What is skimming?**

- a) Quickly reading over a text to get the general gist.
- b) Quickly reading over a text to find a specific piece of information which is focused upon
- c) Taking the time to understand the whole text in depth.

# ANSWER

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**Scanning** is **reading** a text quickly in order to find specific information, e.g.

figures or names. It can be contrasted with skimming, which is **reading** quickly to get a general idea of meaning.

Example

A learner taking a reading test needs to scan a text on population rates quickly

to find out if a series of statements about the population figures are true or false.

**Scanning** is the process where one actively looks for information using a mind-map formed from skimming.



# POLL QUESTION

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# ANSWER

What is scanning?

- a) Quickly reading over a text to get the general gist.
- b) Quickly reading over a text to find some specific information which is focused upon.
- c) Taking the time to understand the whole text in depth.

**Intensive reading** involves learners **reading** in detail with specific learning aims and tasks. It can be compared with extensive **reading**, which involves learners **reading** texts for enjoyment and to develop general **reading** skills. Example. The learners **read** a short text and put events from it into chronological order.



# POLL QUESTION

Read the following paragraphs and carefully determine what the main idea is for each. The best way to approach these questions is to first read the paragraph and then, in your own words, restate what you think the author is trying to say. From the five choices, select the one statement that best supports the author's point.

Critical reading is a demanding process. To read critically, you must slow down your reading and, with pencil in hand, perform specific operations on the text. Mark up the text with your reactions, conclusions, and questions. When you read, become an active participant.

**1. This paragraph best supports the statement that**

- a. critical reading is a slow, dull, but essential process.
- b. the best critical reading happens at critical times in a person's life.
- c. readers should get in the habit of questioning the truth of what they read.
- d. critical reading requires thoughtful and careful attention.
- e. critical reading should take place at the same time each day.

# ANSWER

1. d. This answer is implied by the whole paragraph. The author stresses the need to read critically by performing operations on the text in a slow and specific manner. Choice a is incorrect because the author never says that reading is dull. Choices b, c, and e are not supported by the paragraph.

**Extensive reading** involves learners **reading** texts for enjoyment and to develop general **reading** skills. It can be compared with intensive **reading**, which means **reading** in detail with specific learning aims and tasks. A teacher reads a short story with learners, but does not set them any tasks except to **read** and listen.



# POLL QUESTION

Erosion of America's farmland by wind and water has been a problem since settlers first put the prairies and grasslands under the plow in the nineteenth century. By the 1930s, more than 282 million acres of farmland were damaged by erosion. After 40 years of conservation efforts, soil erosion has accelerated due to new demands placed on the land by heavy crop production. In the years ahead, soil erosion and the pollution problems it causes are likely to replace petroleum scarcity as the nation's most critical natural resource problem.

**As we understand from the reading, today, soil erosion in America ----.**

- A) causes humans to place new demands on the land
- B) is worse than it was in the nineteenth century
- C) happens so slowly that it is hardly noticed
- D) is the most critical problem that the nation faces
- E) is worse in areas which have a lot of petroleum production

# ANSWER

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# *Inference based questions*

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- *These questions want you to understand the author's point of view like:*
- *What does the author imply by this.....?*
- *What would the author most likely to do in another situation?*
- *What does the author suggest?*
- *What does he hint at?*



# POLL QUESTION

Dolphins are regarded as the friendliest creatures in the sea and stories of them helping drowning sailors have been common since Roman times. The more we learn about dolphins, the more we realize that their society is more complex than people previously imagined. They look after other dolphins when they are ill, care for pregnant mothers and protect the weakest in the community, as we do. Some scientists have suggested that dolphins have a language but it is much more probable that they communicate with each other without needing words. Could any of these mammals be more intelligent than man? Certainly the most common argument in favor of man's superiority over them that we can kill them more easily than they can kill us is the least satisfactory. On the contrary, the more we discover about these remarkable creatures, the less we appear superior when we destroy them.

**One can infer from the reading that ----.**

- A) dolphins are quite abundant in some areas of the world
- B) communication is the most fascinating aspect of the dolphins
- C) dolphins have skills that no other living creatures have such as the ability to think
- D) it is not usual for dolphins to communicate with each other
- E) dolphins have some social traits that are similar to those of humans

# ANSWER

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In the Beginning: By improving reading comprehension skills, a reader can better connect with the ideas on a page and apply it to what they already know:-

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Give students a purpose for reading

Focus students' attention on what they have to learn

Help students to think actively as they read

Encourage students to monitor their own comprehension

## **For Students**

What new information did I learn, and what do I expect to learn?

Is this text informative or entertaining, fact or fiction?

Identify interesting facts/figure/key-points?



# POLL QUESTION

Opera refers to a dramatic art form, originating in Europe, in which the emotional content is conveyed to the audience as much through music, both vocal and instrumental, as it is through the lyrics. By contrast, in musical theater an actor's dramatic performance is primary, and the music plays a lesser role. The drama in opera is presented using the primary elements of theater such as scenery, costumes, and acting. However, the words of the opera, or libretto, are sung rather than spoken. The singers are accompanied by a musical ensemble ranging from a small instrumental ensemble to a full symphonic orchestra.

**1. It is pointed out in the reading that opera ----.**

- A) has developed under the influence of musical theater
- B) is a drama sung with the accompaniment of an orchestra
- C) is not a high-budget production
- D) is often performed in Europe
- E) is the most complex of all the performing arts

# ANSWER

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# Techniques to improve reading skill

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- Techniques to improve reading skill
- Survey
- Question
- Read
- Recite
- Relate
- Review



# POLL QUESTION

The main point of this passage is that... Carbon tetrachloride is a colorless and inflammable liquid that can be produced by combining carbon disulfide and chlorine. This compound is widely used in industry today because of its effectiveness as a solvent as well as its use in the production of propellants. Despite its widespread use in industry, carbon tetrachloride has been banned for home use. In the past, carbon tetrachloride was a common ingredient in cleaning compounds that were used throughout the home, but it was found to be dangerous: when heated, it changes into a poisonous gas that can cause severe illness and even death if it is inhaled. Because of this dangerous characteristic, the United States revoked permission for the home use of carbon tetrachloride in 1970. The United States has taken similar action with various other chemical compounds.

- A. Carbon tetrachloride can be very dangerous when it is heated
- B. The government banned carbon tetrachloride in 1970
- C. Although carbon tetrachloride can legally be used in industry, it is not allowed in home products.
- D. Carbon tetrachloride used to be a regular part of cleaning compounds

# ANSWER

The main point of this passage is that... Carbon tetrachloride is a colorless and inflammable liquid that can be produced by combining carbon disulfide and chlorine. This compound is widely used in industry today because of its effectiveness as a solvent as well as its use in the production of propellants. Despite its widespread use in industry, carbon tetrachloride has been banned for home use. In the past, carbon tetrachloride was a common ingredient in cleaning compounds that were used throughout the home, but it was found to be dangerous: when heated, it changes into a poisonous gas that can cause severe illness and even death if it is inhaled. Because of this dangerous characteristic, the United States revoked permission for the home use of carbon tetrachloride in 1970. The United States has taken similar action with various other chemical compounds.

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# Tips and Techniques to Perform Better in Reading Passage Comprehension

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When you begin to read the passage, follow these

## Strategies

- We read paragraph for two purposes, first to develop comprehension about the text. It happens when we have command over the words which are used in the paragraph. Second for drawing inferential meaning from the text.

Please follow the following strategies to develop comprehension



# Tips and Techniques to Perform Better in Reading Passage Comprehension

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- Please follow the following strategies to develop comprehension.
- Read the text thoroughly.
- Have a look on title of the passage (sometimes reflects the story).

# Tips and Techniques to Perform Better in Reading Passage Comprehension

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Find out (underline) the fact mentioned in the text. i.e.

Simple name / characters

Place mentioned in the text

**Day and date mentioned in the text**

Simple questions i.e. who was the king? When did it happen? How many characters in the story etc (these are known as factual questions)

Reader should try to extract the meaning of underlined , italicized , bold printed words and phrases

Reader should re-read the difficult paragraph

# Tips and Techniques to Perform Better in Reading Passage Comprehension

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Try to understand the meaning of text. Do not stuck or worry if you do not know the meaning of a word mentioned in the text. Simple solution of this problem is to re-reads the previous sentence and the next sentence \*. This will give you an insight about the meaning of words.



# Tips and Techniques to Perform Better in Reading Passage Comprehension

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Try to find out the answer of inferential question which demands the reader to look beyond the text. (Why do you think so? How did incident take place? Given statement? Why or why not?) To answer these types of questions readers should look into the mentioned text as well as co-relate it into real life situations. Reader should give the answer even beyond the text.(Acc. to questions)

## **Tips and Techniques to Perform Better in Reading Passage Comprehension**

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Read the questions and look out for the answer from the text. Questions itself comprise of answer. So read the questions properly

# Tips and Techniques to Perform Better in Reading Passage Comprehension

If you are facing difficulty to find out answer of the complex questions then passage demands you to re-read once as an alert reader to increase comprehension level of the text

Slowly and gradually you should increase vocabulary power to comprehend a written paragraph



# Tips and Techniques to Perform Better in Reading Passage Comprehension

Passage comprehension demands you to have sound knowledge of basic grammar, word power and techniques to write answer properly and accurately

Questions can also be related to grammar because written passage may focus single item of grammar in the passage i.e. if the passage consists of past indefinite then grammar question will be related to past indefinite tense.

# Tips and Techniques to Perform Better in Reading Passage Comprehension

Generally questions' answer can be find easily from the passage but one or two questions demands re-reading of paragraph/sentences for more than one time

Generally reader face the difficulty to find out the answer of vocabulary related questions i.e. synonyms, antonyms, homophones, inferential meanings. Problems will be solved if the reader practices reading comprehension passage regularly to have command on vocabulary etc.....