**2. ACTIVITIES on READING COMPREHENSION**

**Reading comprehension** is the ability to process text, understand its meaning, and to integrate with what is already known.  Fundamental skills required in efficient reading comprehension are -knowing meaning of words, ability to understand meaning of a word from discourse context, ability to follow organization of passage and to identify antecedents and references in it.

The various reading strategies are:

* Intensive reading
* Extensive reading
* Skimming
* Scanning
* Global comprehension
* Local comprehension
* Prediction
* Inference

Intensive reading - Reading in detail with specific learning aims and tasks. The purpose of intensive reading is **to focus on content and grammatical structures**.  Intensive reading develops critical thinking, analytical skills, along with improving reading skills.

Extensive reading - **Reading texts for enjoyment and to develop general reading skills**. Extensive Reading helps learners to build reading speed and reading fluency.

Skimming- Skimming is one of the tools you can use to read more in less time. **Skimming** refers to looking only for the general or main ideas, and works best with non-fiction (or factual) material. With skimming, your overall understanding is reduced because you don’t read everything. You read only what is important to your purpose. Skimming takes place while reading and allows you to look for details in addition to the main ideas.

Scanning - Scanning  is  a  method  of  selective  reading,  when  searching  for  a  particular  fact  or  answer  to  a  question.  Scanning  can   best  be  described  as  a  looking  rather  than  a  reading  process.

Global Comprehension - Global comprehension is the understanding of a longer text in its totality. The term global comprehension is associated with extensive reading.

Local Comprehension - Local comprehension is the skill of reading a piece of text closely or intensely for the purpose of extracting specific information from the text. This skill is referred to as intensive reading skill.

Prediction - A prediction is an educated guess (often about explicit details) that can be confirmed or denied.

Inference - Inference in general is drawing conclusions based on observation.

Critical reading means that a reader applies certain processes, models, questions, and theories that result in enhanced clarity and comprehension. C**ritical reading** is a form of language analysis that does not take the given text at face value, but involves a deeper examination of the claims put forth as well as the supporting points and possible [counterarguments](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Counterarguments). The aim of critical reading is not to find fault, but to assess the strength of the evidence and the argument. It is just as useful to conclude that a study, or an article, presents very strong evidence and a well-reasoned argument, as it is to identify the studies or articles that are weak.

EFFECTIVE GOOGLING - Google search is a very powerful search tool. It is helpful and convenient, though tried and true tool for the daily work flow, we don’t always right away find the answers we are looking for.

An effective search is one that: **Returns results on highly likely matches or on the correct individuals**. **Doesn't overwhelm you with too many results or underwhelm you with too little or no results**. To get the results, choose words carefully, use important descriptive words. Use tabs, quotes and hyphens should be used to exclude words, colons to search specific site, for desirable results keep it simple.

Activities:

Read the passage and answer the following questions.

**The history of UFOs.**

Unidentified Flying Object (or “UFO”) is a term commonly used to describe lights or shapes in the sky. It was first coined by the United States Air Force in 1952 to describe sightings of mysterious objects in the sky that could not be explained even after careful investigation. Nowadays UFOs are spotted frequently, and feature in numerous movies and TV shows. Another popular name for such an object is, “Flying Saucer,” in reference to the round shape of many UFOs.

The first widely publicized UFO sighting was in 1947, by a pilot called Kenneth Arnold. Following this event, public sightings of UFOs increased dramatically. Movies and TV shows began featuring visitors from outer space, arriving on earth in flying saucers. With the popularity of these images, many people claimed to have seen lights in the sky. Some experts believe that people simply think they see UFOs because of the influence of TV and movies.

However, experts estimate that as little as 5% of these sightings could be called “unidentified.” Usually these lights are made by aircraft, satellites, or weather balloons. Top secret air force activities during the Cold War may have been responsible for many of the UFO sightings in America and Europe. Although not actually aliens, the secretive nature of these flying objects is definitely unidentified.

Another popular idea concerning UFOs concerns the role of world governments. Specifically, people believe that the US government has discovered alien life and operates a “cover-up” to hide the truth from the public. The most widely believed cover-up is that of the Roswell Incident. In July, 1947, a UFO supposedly landed in Roswell, New Mexico, and was examined and hidden by government agents. There have been many investigations into the Roswell Incident, however, these reports always claim that no such event occurred.

# Questions

**1st Reading (Skimming)**

**Read through the article and answer each of the following questions.**

1.What is the purpose of this report?

a) To describe the history of alien life.

b) To describe government cover-ups.

c) To describe the history of UFO sightings.

d) To describe UFOs in popular movies.

2. Why are UFO sightings so controversial?

a) They have never been proved.

b) There are many sightings.

c) The government covers up sightings.

d) There are very few UFO sightings.

**2nd Reading (Scanning)**

**Read the text carefully and answer each of the following questions in the form of a sentence or a short paragraph.**

1.Why is Kenneth Arnold famous among UFO believers?

a) He was at Roswell in 1947.

b) He found a UFO in 1952.

c) He saw a UFO in 1947.

d) He saw a UFO in 1952.

2.How do experts explain many UFO sightings?

a) There are many alien visitors to earth.

b) TV and movies make people believe they see UFOs.

c) Government cover-ups make people paranoid.

d) They have no idea why there are so many sightings.

3.What do many people believe happened at Roswell?

a) Famous movies were made.

b) Kenneth Arnold was born.

c) The first UFO sighting.

d) A UFO landed there.

**Circle the best answer for each question about the reading passage**

1. Which of the following is true?

a) The first UFO was spotted in 1952.

b) The word “UFO” was first used in 1952.

c) The Roswell Incident occurred in 1952.

d) A UFO landed in America in 1952.

1. What influence did the Cold War have upon UFO sightings?

a) American pilots saw a UFO in the Cold War.

b) More UFO movies were made in the Cold War.

c) Lots of government cover-ups occurred.

d) Top secret air force activities caused more sightings.

1. **State whether the following statements about the reading are true (T) or false (F) according to the information in the passage.**

1. Kenneth Arnold saw the first UFO.
2. The Roswell incident occurred in 1952.
3. Experts say many normal things account for UFO sightings.
4. Flying saucers are square shaped.

Activity on prediction.

Read the passage and answer the question based on what you think might have happened.

Angela threw the bedspread over the bed and fussed with it until it was free of wrinkles. She dusted her dresser and straightened the knickknacks. As she was leaving the room, she noticed that a picture frame on the nightstand was slightly crooked. She went back into the room and straightened the picture frame. She examined her bedroom one more time and gave it a satisfied nod, and then she went to vacuum the living room. As she was running the vacuum, her three-year-old son Jason walked into Angela's bedroom. He was drinking a glass of grape juice and playing with his cars. Angela's bedspread fell as he raced his cars off the bed. While hitting an imaginary jump with his cars, he bumped into the nightstand and knocked over Angela's picture frame. Then, while he lined his cars up at the starting line of a pretend race, he kicked over the grape juice and it spilled all over Angela's white carpet. Jason didn't notice. After Angela finished vacuuming the living room, she tied the cord around the vacuum and went to return it to her bedroom...

What event is most likely to occur next? \_\_

Activity on Inference

Read the passage and answer the question based on your inference.

Thunder struck and rain poured. Max stared blankly out the window, trying to contain his emotions that raged like the weather. He was beginning to lose it. Dropping the kite from his hand, Max broke out into full sob. His mother comforted him, “There, there, Max. We’ll just find something else to do.” She began to unpack the picnic basket that was on the counter and offered him a sandwich. Max snapped, “I don’t wanna sand-mich!” A flash from the sky lit up the living room. Boom! Mom sighed.

Why is Max upset?