Reading Comprehension

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What is a Reading Comprehension?

Reading comprehension is the ability to understand, interpret, and make meaning from a written text.

❖ Decoding the words correctly.

❖ Understanding vocabulary and sentence structure.

❖ Connecting ideas within the text and to prior knowledge.

❖ Drawing conclusions (like making inferences or predictions).

In short, reading comprehension means not only reading the words but also grasping what the text is really saying.

Reading Comprehension

✓ Newspaper example!

Skimming

Definition: Reading quickly to get the general idea / gist.

Activity: Read a short composition (about 50 words).

Task: In 2 minutes, skim and write a 5-word summary.

Skimming (Activity)

✓ The library was full of students preparing for exams. Some read thick textbooks carefully, while others flipped through notes quickly. A group discussed possible questions. The librarian arranged new books on the shelves. Outside, the sun was shining, but inside, silence showed how serious everyone was about learning.

Scanning

Definition: Reading quickly to find specific information.

Task: Find:

"On which day are white chawal served to the customers?"

"Is there any food served twice a week?"

Scanning (Activity)

Intensive

Definition: Reading carefully and closely to understand exact meaning, vocabulary, or grammar.

Task: Underline unfamiliar words + discuss meanings in context.

Intensive

✓ The library was full of students preparing for exams. Some read thick textbooks carefully, while others flipped through notes quickly. A group discussed possible questions. The librarian arranged new books on the shelves. Outside, the sun was shining, but inside, silence showed how serious everyone was about learning.

Extensive

Definition: Reading longer texts for enjoyment / overall understanding (e.g., novels, magazines).

Activity:

"What was the last book/story you read for fun?"

"Why do you enjoy long reading compared to short?"

Inference

Definition: Reading between the lines → guessing hidden meaning.

Activity:

Speaker: "Wow, your room is so... clean!" (rolling eyes)

Question: "What does the speaker really mean?"

Inference (Activity)

Ali came back home, threw his bag on the floor, and went straight to his room without talking to anyone. At dinner, he only picked at his food and kept looking down. His mother asked, "Is everything alright at school today?" Ali just shrugged and said nothing.

Inference (Possible Questions)

❖ What can we infer about Ali's mood? (Is he happy, sad, angry, worried?)

❖ What might have happened at school?

❖ Why did Ali not answer his mother?

Inference (Expected Inferences)

❖ Ali is likely upset or worried.

❖ Something negative may have happened at school (e.g., a bad grade, fight, scolding).

❖ His silence suggests he doesn't want to talk about it.

Reading Comprehension (Activity)

❖ Read all the definitions of the sentences and align them accordingly.

Reading Comprehension (Skimming)

❖ It is reading quickly to get the general idea or main points of a text.

❖ It helps readers understand the overall theme without focusing on details.

❖ It is often used to preview a passage, decide its relevance, or grasp the summary.

Reading Comprehension (Scanning)

❖ It is reading quickly to locate specific information such as names, numbers, or dates.

❖ It focuses on spotting keywords or details without reading the entire text.

❖ Readers use this when they want to find a fact, figure, or phrase directly.

Reading Comprehension (Intensive)

❖ It is careful, detailed reading of short texts to understand meaning deeply.

❖ It focuses on grammar, vocabulary, and structure of sentences within a passage.

❖ It often includes activities like translation, comprehension questions, or text analysis.

Reading Comprehension (Extensive)

❖ It means reading longer texts for overall understanding and enjoyment.

❖ It helps learners improve fluency and vocabulary by reading widely and in larger amounts.

❖ The goal of this reading is to build reading habit and comprehension through exposure.

Reading Comprehension (Inference)

❖ It is in reading means drawing conclusions based on clues in the text and prior knowledge.

❖ It requires readers to "read between the lines" to understand what is not directly stated.

❖ It helps develop critical thinking by connecting implied meanings to the text.

References

➢ Yule, G. (2022). *The study of language*. Cambridge university press.

THANKS.

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