**English for Technical Documentation**

Identify, understand, and interpret technical software documentation using reading strategies (skimming, scanning, inference) and technical vocabulary.

# 1. Introduction to Technical Documentation

Activity:  
- Ask: “Have you ever read software documentation in English?”  
- Examples: installation manuals, README files, changelogs, API references.

# 2. Reading Strategies: Skimming, Scanning & Inference

Explanation:  
- Skimming → Read quickly for the main idea.  
- Scanning → Look for specific information.  
- Inference → Deduce meaning from context.

Example text (excerpt from fictional README.md):

***SuperApp v2.3.1***  
***Requirements: Windows 10 or later, 4GB RAM, 500MB free disk space.***  
***Installation: Download the installer from our repository. Run the .exe file and follow the on-screen steps.***  
***Notes: This version includes bug fixes and new features. Previous versions are deprecated.***

Tasks:

1. (Skimming) What is this text about? \_\_\_**It’s about the readme of a project that contains little details about installation of the project**\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

2. (Scanning) Which operating system is required? \_\_\_\_**Windows, 10 or later**\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

3. (Scanning) What is the minimum RAM needed? \_\_\_\_\_\_**4 gigabytes of RAM**\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

4. (Inference) What does 'deprecated' mean in this context? \_\_\_**It means doesn’t longer work, or are not supported anymore\_\_\_\_\_\_The feature has been replaced by a more powerful alternative feature.\_\_**

**More generally, outside of an IT context, deprecated means that something is acknowledged but discouraged.**

# 3. Vocabulary: Technical Terms & Expressions

Common Technical Documentation Vocabulary:

* - Requirements
* - Installation
* - Troubleshooting
* - Update / Patch
* - Deprecated
* - Features
* - Bug fix
* - Repository
* - Release notes
* - Compatibility

Match each term with its meaning (write the correct number):  
1. A correction to fix software problems. – **Bug Fix**  
2. The steps to set up a program. - **Installation**  
3. The minimal resources needed to run the program. - **Requirements**  
  
Write sentences using at least 3 terms above.  
 **My program has no requirements; the installation process consists only of downloading and running the exe file. To get updates on the application, you can check the project repository.**

# 4. Analysing a Software Documentation

Read the documentation excerpt and answer:

***API Documentation – WeatherNow***  
***Base URL: https://api.weathernow.com***  
***Endpoints:***  
***- /current: Returns current weather data for a given location.***  
***- /forecast: Returns weather forecast for the next 7 days.***  
***Authentication: API key required.***

Questions:

**Colon -> :**

**/ -> slash**

1. What is the base URL? \_\_\_ ***https://api.weathernow.com*** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

2. Which endpoint gives the 7-day forecast? \_\_\_ ***/forecast*** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

3. What is required to use the API? \_\_\_\_ ***API key required*** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

# 5. Writing Practice – Mini Documentation

In pairs, create a short documentation for a fictional software or game including:  
- Name and description  
- Minimum requirements  
- Installation steps  
- Notes  
Use technical terms

**Name: BigCoast Game**

**A 2d plataform game like Mario**

**Requirements Windows 10 and the last version of .net**

**Installation steps: First, you need to download the game. You can find the download link in this repository. Next, you need to unzip the game, run the exe file, and the installation will begin. The game will be installed in a folder with the same name as the game. Open the folder, click on the installed exe file, and the game will start.**

**Notes:**

**The game will automatically download all updates.**

**If you encounter any bugs or have any questions, you can report them in this repository.**