

SQ3R..An Organized Approach To Study

There are 5 basic steps to follow using this method. For this procedure to become an effective habit, you may have to force yourself to follow the steps for the first few times. The idea is to have a system for study, not a haphazard ineffective approach. The steps are:

SURVEY

Acquire as much information as possible before reading an assignment. See handout on Reading Your Text.

- Check the Table of Contents to see what you will be learning.
- Read any handouts.
- Look over any vocabulary lists.
- Read the introduction and summary.
- Go page by page through the chapter looking at subheadings, graphs, pictures, key ideas, italics, whatever attracts attention.
- Try to determine the organization/plan, main ideas of the material.

QUESTION

Asking questions helps focus reading and study. Questions give purpose to the work and make it an active, rather than passive, process.

- Read & think about any question sheets from teachers.
- Read & think about any questions in the text.
- Go page by page through the chapter again & ask yourself questions here and there about what you see. (Subheadings are especially easy to turn into questions.)
- W-type questions are easiest to ask. (Who, What, When, Where, Why, How?)
- The best questions ask for comparisons, contrasts, evaluations, manipulations. (What is the difference between ___ and ___?)

READ

Read for answers to the questions from step 2.

- Read for meaning by keeping your mind active at all times.
- Read straight through if the material is easy to understand.
- Difficult material should be read page by page, section by section, or even paragraph to paragraph.
- Take notes, underline main ideas. Be an active learner, and know what you have read.
- This is the third time through the chapter, so the material should be more familiar.

RECITE

Most study time is spent here. When you get to the end of a section:

- Stop reading, look away, or close your eyes and ask, "What did I learn?"
- Recite the answers in your own words.
- Hearing your own voice explain an idea will aid in your learning and remembering it.
- You'll be ready if the teacher uses different words than the text.
- Don't go on until you understand each section.

REVIEW

It is normal and natural to forget what you study. That is why review is so critical and must be done.

- Make a conscious effort to recall what you studied.
- Look again at the Table of Contents, outlines, and summary paragraphs.
- Think about the questions you asked and be sure you know the answers.
- Know details for the major points, and review previous material before continuing on.

Advantages of SQ3R

<u>Survey</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Helps perceive organization to improve memory.• Allows the reader to select and reject.• Helps reading rate• Helps you associate previous knowledge with the new material.• Reading headings, etc., will help the reader guess the content.• An efficient survey will arouse interest in the material.
<u>Question</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• There are 2 main types of questions:<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Those you ask before reading the entire lesson. (These tend to be broad, general sorts of questions...e.g., What does this have to do with our class work? How much do I already know about this?)2. Those you ask before reading each section. (These tend to be more specific sorts of questions. such as those you get when you turn headings into questions.• You should always have at least one question in mind as you read. If you seldom find the answers to your questions, you may be asking the wrong questions. Look back to determine why you went astray.
<u>Read</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Reading is an active, not passive, process.• Try to understand the author's thoughts.• Read study materials to remember, not to forget. (We read novels to escape reality, but don't transfer this to school related reading.)• Remember that recognizing ideas as you read is not the same as learning these ideas. Learning may require extra work.• Know what you're looking for. Look for it. Learn it
<u>Recite</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The sooner the better.• A logical place is at the end of each section.<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Try to answer the question you formed from the heading.- The recitation changes the way you process information.• Write it. Use working notes:<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Read the entire section before you write anything.- Jot the notes from memory. Don't copy.- Use your own words. (You don't really understand something until you can do this.)- Be brief. Use cue words and phrases. Use form to show relationships.• Writing aids learning because you mentally organize the material for completeness and clarity.
<u>Review</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Look back for specific information.• Scan the material, but reread what is not clear to you.• Don't stare at the material. Cover it up and recite.• Repetition aids memory.• Review often.