MORE
READING
POWER

Reading Faster • Thinking Skills
Reading for Pleasure • Comprehension Skills

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BSM and IJ
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How to use More Reading Power

This book is different from other reading books. More Reading Power is divided into four parts. You should work on exercises in all four parts simultaneously when you use the book. This gives you practice in four different kinds of reading skills.

Part One. Reading for Pleasure. The more you read, the better you will read. In Part One, you will choose books to read and you will learn how to keep a record of your reading. You will also talk about your books with your classmates and your teacher.

Part Two. Reading Comprehension Skills. Reading is a very complex task involving many different skills. In this part, you will learn to use some essential reading skills.

Part Three. Thinking in English. Reading is not just understanding the words or the grammar. It is not just translating. Reading is thinking. In order to read well in English, you must think in English. The exercises in Part Three will give you practice in following ideas in English.

Part Four. Reading Faster. There are many advantages to reading faster. Your comprehension will improve, you will save time on reading assignments, and your reading will become more enjoyable. In this part of the book, you will develop the skill of reading faster with good comprehension.

Why is reading important?

Reading is one important way to improve your general language skills in English. How does reading help you?

- Reading helps you learn to think in English.
- Reading can enlarge your English vocabulary.
- Reading can help you improve your writing.
- Reading may be a good way to practice your English if you live in a non-English-speaking country.
- Reading can help you prepare for study in an English-speaking country.
- Reading is a good way to find out about new ideas, facts, and experiences.
Introduction

Thinking about your reading habits

Reading can help much more if you can read well. That means being able to read many different materials and being able to understand them.

How well you read depends a lot on your reading habits. Find out about your reading habits by using the two questionnaires below. Answer all of the questions according to your own experience.

Fill in Questionnaire 1 about your reading habits in your first language (your native language). Then go on to Questionnaire 2 about your reading habits in English. (If your native language is English, skip Questionnaire 1. Go directly to Questionnaire 2.)

Questionnaire 1

Reading in Your Native Language

Native language: __________________________

For each statement, circle Y (Yes) or N (No).

1. I always read every word of a passage. Y N
2. Reading aloud helps me improve my reading. Y N
3. I say the words aloud when I read. Y N
4. I use different reading methods in my native language and in English. Y N
5. When I read my native language, I understand more when I read slowly. Y N
6. If I don’t know the meaning of a word, I always look it up in the dictionary. Y N
7. The best way to improve my reading in my native language is by learning as much grammar as possible. Y N
8. The best way to improve my reading in my native language is by learning as much new vocabulary as possible. Y N
9. When I am reading in my native language, I need to know every word in order to understand. Y N
10. To read well in my native language, I must be able to pronounce every word. Y N
11. I can’t understand a paragraph if it has several new words in it. Y N
12. I use the same reading methods for all kinds of texts (books, newspapers, etc.). Y N
**questionnaire 2**

**Reading in English**

- For each statement, circle Y (Yes) or N (No).

1. I always read every word of a passage. Y N
2. Reading aloud helps me improve my reading. Y N
3. I say the words aloud when I read. Y N
4. I use different reading methods in my native language and in English. Y N
5. When I read in English, I understand more when I read slowly. Y N
6. If I don’t know the meaning of a word in English, I always look it up in the dictionary. Y N
7. The best way to improve my reading in English is by learning as much grammar as possible. Y N
8. The best way to improve my reading in English is by learning as much new vocabulary as possible. Y N
9. When I am reading material in English, I need to know every word in order to understand. Y N
10. To read well in English, I must be able to pronounce every word. Y N
11. I can’t understand a paragraph if it has several new words in it. Y N
12. I use the same reading methods for all kinds of texts (books, newspapers, etc.). Y N

- Compare your answers to the two questionnaires. Are your answers the same for both?
- Compare your answers with another student. Do you agree? Look at questions which you answered similarly and questions you answered differently.

**Check your answers.**

You should have circled N for every question in both questionnaires! If you marked some answers “Yes,” then you may need to learn more about reading. More Reading Power will help you change your reading habits and your ideas about reading.