



Reading Comprehension: Reading with Confidence

Having trouble with what you read? Starting to fall behind in your college reading? Imagine yourself having just finished reading a chapter from one of your most difficult classes. Stop and think for a moment. Can you recall what you just read? More than not, we read the words, understand what they say, but fail to internalize their message to us. Internalizing what we have read is more commonly known as comprehension. Reading comprehension involves developing purposeful reading skills, developing reading skills or literal comprehension, developing evaluative skills or critical comprehension, and practicing comprehension skills.

College students need to be introduced to important cognitive reading skills for effective reading comprehension. Reading is an active rather than a passive process. Once you have established your purpose, chosen a strategy, and focused your attention, you are then ready to monitor your comprehension. Surprised? You shouldn't be. First, do all the elements and ideas make sense? Can you see where the author is leading? Next, can you connect ideas while reading at a regular comfortable pace? And finally, if you can understand why the material was assigned and can express it in your own words, then you should feel comfortable and have some knowledge about the topic. Keeping these things in mind while you read will eventually, if not immediately, tell you whether or not you effectively comprehend the assignment.

The general objectives of the Advanced Reading/Learning Program services are to give students the opportunity to develop maximum efficiency in reading and to enhance their chances of academic success. Classwork involves review and refinement of reading skills including vocabulary, comprehension and speed of reading. Laboratory training emphasizing individual needs is also required of each student. The latest materials and mechanical teaching devices are available in the reading laboratory for efficient training in reading. Importantly, it is hoped that these improved skills will produce better grades. The course is also designed to assist those who are preparing for graduate work.

The L.E.A.R.N. Program offers a three-hour credit course titled ENG REA 1105 Advanced Reading. This course is offered every semester. For more information, call the **Counseling Center at 974-2831**.

For more information or assistance:

USF students may call 974-2831;

Faculty and staff may call 974-5469