

Textbook Reading

The SQ3R Method



THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY

OFFICE OF DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION

Survey

Survey the assigned chapter to determine your reading goals.

- Look at the chapter title. What do you already know about this subject? Consider what the chapter may cover; read the chapter summary.
- Preview the whole chapter. Read the headings and subheadings.
- Divide long reading assignments into segments with breaks in between (i.e. read 10 pages at a time or read for 20 minutes at a time).

Question

Use the chapter headings and subheadings to formulate **questions** for each section of the chapter.

- Identify main ideas and related questions. For example, questions for the chapter heading "Depression" may include: What is depression? What are the consequences and symptoms of depression? How is depression treated?
- If you are having difficulty formulating questions, focus on the questions who, what, when, where, and why.

Read

Read each section and search for answers to your formulated questions.

- Try to gain a general understanding without getting bogged down with the details.
- Circle or underline key words, phrases, definitions, names, and dates.
- Jot down key points in the textbook margins or in your notebook.
- Write down your own questions or ideas generated while reading.
- Put a question mark next to any section you did not understand and need clarified by a Professor, TA, tutor, or friend.

Recite

After each section, recall the questions and **recite** the answers.

- Summarize material out loud using your own words to express thoughts.
- OR write a short summary of the section in your own words (2-3 sentences).
- If you have a study partner, quiz each other.

Review

Go back over all questions and answers from every section for **review**.

- Reviewing immediately after reading, writing, or hearing a lecture triples the amount of information you are able to retain and may reduce study time by up to 90%.

For additional study skills resources and program information, visit the ODI Tutoring Program website at <http://go.osu.edu/odi-tutor>.