

## What Good Readers Do

We read lots of different “stuff” every day, and we read that information in different ways. We may lose ourselves in the plot of the latest bestseller, but simply scan the bus schedule to figure out the bus we need. Our *purpose* for reading guides our *style* of reading.

There are 4 distinct categories for reading:

1. Academic Reading: this is the “school” reading you do every day, like maps, textbooks, poetry and scientific procedures.
2. Personal Reading: this is the fun reading that you do, like magazines, websites, novels, graphic novels, etc.
3. Workplace Reading: this type of reading takes place usually once you graduate. It consists of manuals, memos, emails, reports – that sort of thing.
4. Functional Reading: this category has all the informational reading that you do in a day, such as scanning the bus schedule, reading food labels, calendars and planners.

You are probably a pro at Personal Reading. Reading for pleasure allows you to read as much as you like, at whatever pace you prefer. You don’t have to follow any particular process.

However, for academic reading and some workplace reading, you will need a *reading process*, such as the one outlined below, to help you get the information you need. Using a reading strategy is something that good readers – often without knowing that they do so. If you want to improve your retention of information, give it a try!

Reading Strategy:

<b>Before</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- set a purpose. Why are you reading this?</li><li>- preview the reading. Scan the chapter headings</li><li>- plan a reading strategy. Develop some questions that you want your reading to answer.</li></ul>
<b>During</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- read with a purpose. Answer your questions.</li><li>- create some personal connection to the text. What does it remind you of?</li></ul>
<b>After</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- pause, reflect and look back to see if you found information that fits your purpose.</li><li>- reread to find out things you might have missed the first time through</li><li>- remember what you learned</li></ul>

