### Survey, Question, Read, Recite, Review

Applying the Steps of the SQ3R
Process to

Textbooks

And
Other Print Materials

# SQ3R

A classic approach to studying textbook reading assignments or information you must know well enough to teach to others.



### **SURVEY**

Time: 5-10 minutes

**Purposes:** 

- To acquire an overview of the entire assignment
- To get interested in the reading material

## SURVEY (cont.)

- Check out these items as you glance over the entire assignment or reading material:
  - Length
  - Source and date
  - Headings, subheadings
  - Pictures, graphs
  - Bold-faced print, words in italics or quotes
  - First , last paragraphs

# Tasks (cont.)

- Decide how you will study the reading material:
  - In parts or
  - As a whole

# **QUESTION**

Time: 10 minutes, maybe more

Purpose:

• To begin thinking about the subject matter



# QUESTION (cont.)

- Study the questions at the end of a chapter (if this applies).
  - Write some of the questions down.. (the main part not multiple choice responses)
  - Use them as a study guide while reading the chapter.

# Tasks (cont.)

- Make your own questions:
  - Convert headings or subheadings into questions.
  - Make questions about bold-faced words or phrases.
  - Use the question words asked by a journalist to help you form a question:
    - Who? When? Where?
    - What? Why? How?

### **READ**

Time: unlimited

**Purpose:** 

 To know the material very well for a test or presentation



## READ (cont.)

- Complete the tasks of this step for each division of the lesson.
- Decide what is important and what is not.
- Highlight or underline main points.
  - Do not highlight whole sentences or paragraphs.
  - Focus on main subjects and verbs.

## READ (cont.)

### Tasks (cont.):

- Make notes in the margins
  - Definition of terms
  - Answers to questions from question steps
  - Use one-word or phrase summary for a paragraph or groups of paragraphs

## **RECITE**

Time: unlimited

Purpose:

To see if you understand the material



# RECITE (cont.)

- Close your book and write down what you remember.
- Use one of three ways to summarize:
  - Map or diagram
  - Outline
  - Paragraph
- Use your one word or phrase summaries to guide you (if you remember them).

# Tasks (cont.)

- Repeat process for each part of the lesson.
- Redo the READ step if you can not remember details.

## REVIEW

Time: 30 minutes, maybe more

• It depends on how well you did the READ Step.

### **Purpose:**

• To review the night before a test or presentation.

# REVIEW (cont.)

- Review your RECITE notes.
- Repeat the READ step if you can not remember anything.

