Reading Context

Developing College Reading Skill

SECOND EDITION

Suranaree University of Technology



31051000564746

Dorothy U. Seyler

CONTENTS

Preface ix

■ CHAPTER 1

The Reading Context 1

The Reading Process 3

What Is Reading? 4 The Role of Vocabulary 5 Connecting and Predicting in Reading 5 The Reading Context 8

Your Reading Profile 9

The Engaged Reader 10

Commitment 10 Concentration 12 Cognition (and Metacognition) 15

Selection 1 Lester A. Lefton, "Learning to Learn" 17

Selection 2 Douglas Colligan, "The Light Stuff" 19

■ CHAPTER 2

Reading Actively 26

Why Have a Reading Strategy? 26

Prepare-Read-Respond: How the Parts Connect 27

Prepare 28

Identify the Author and the Work 28 Establish Purpose in Reading 32 Preread: William Barklow, "Hippo Talk" 33 What Do I Already Know? 37 What Do I Already Know about: "Ethics and Public Speaking"? 38 What Will I Learn from Reading? 41

Read 42

Write 42 Guidelines for Annotating 43 An Example of Annotating: Wood and Wood, "Long-Term Memory" and "The Three Processes in Memory: Encoding, Storage, and Retrieval" 43 Monitor 45 Guidelines for Fixing Comprehension 46

Respond: Reflect and Review 48

Reflect 48 Review 50

Selection 1 Lester A. Lefton, "Hypnosis" 51

- Selection 2 Edward J. Tarbuck and Frederick K. Lutgens, "The Nature of Scientific Inquiry" 56
- Selection 3 Robert J. Samuelson, "The Triumph of the Psycho-Fact: If We Feel It's True, Then It Is—Even If It Isn't" 60

■ CHAPTER 3

Concentrating on Main Ideas 67

The Role of Previous Knowledge 68

Identifying the Topic 69

Understanding Main Ideas 72

Guidelines for Identifying Main Ideas 73 Identifying a Paragraph's Topic Sentence 75 Placement of the Topic Sentence 75 Paragraphs with an Implied Main Idea 82

Distinguishing among Supporting Details 86

Identifying Main Ideas in Longer Passages 94

Thomas A. Bailey and David M. Kennedy, "Jeffersonian Idealism and Idealists" 96 Turley Mings, "The New Industrial Revolution" 98 Aileen Jacobson, "Women in Charge" 100

- Selection 1 James M. Henslin, "The Amish—Gemeinschaft Community in a Gesellschaft Society" 102
- Selection 2 Dianne Hales and Dr. Robert Hales, "Does Your Body-Talk Do You In?" 106
- Selection 3 Robert E. Ricklefs, "The Behavior of the Baboon Has Evolved in a Social Context" 112

■ CHAPTER 4

Building Word Power 117

Context Clues 118

Definitions 119 Examples 120 Comparison and Contrast 122

Learning from Word Parts: Prefixes, Roots, and Suffixes 126

Common Prefixes (Word Parts Placed at the Beginning of Words) 127 Common Roots (to Which Prefixes and/or Suffixes Are Added) 128 Suffixes (Word Parts Placed at the End of Words) 130 Common Suffixes 130

Using the Dictionary 132

Glossaries 132 Pocket Dictionaries 132 Spelling-Only Dictionaries 132 Desk Dictionaries 133 The Thesaurus 133 Online Help 134

What Each Dictionary Entry Contains 134

Strategies for Learning New Words 139

Guidelines for Learning New Words 139 Using Vocabulary Cards 140 Using New Words 141

Some Important Words from Various Disciplines 142

Selection 1 Sydney J. Harris, "Opposing Principles Help Balance Society" 142

Selection 2 Lester A. Lefton, "What Is Prejudice?" 146

Selection 3 Roger L. Welsch, "Belly Up to the Bar: This Round's on Me" 152

■ CHAPTER 5

Recognizing a Writer's Structures and Strategies 158

Listing 159

Signal Words for Listing 160

Examples 163

Signal Words for Examples 163

Definition 165

Signal Words for Definitions 166

Ordering: Chronology and Process 168

Signal Words for Ordering 169

Comparison and Contrast 172

Signal Words for Comparison and Contrast 173

Cause and Effect 176

Signal Words for Cause and Effect 177

Problem/Solution 180

Signal Words for Problem/Solution Structures 180

Mixed Patterns 186

Selection 1 Stephen E. Lucas, "Differences Between Public Speaking and Conversation" 188

Selection 2 James M. Henslin, "The Effects of the Automobile" 193

Selection 3 Andrew Vachss, "A Hard Look at How We Treat Children" 199

■ CHAPTER 6

Writing Strategies to Reinforce Reading 204

Why Write? 205

Highlighting/Underlining 205

Guidelines for Highlighting/Underlining 207

Annotating 207

Guidelines for Annotating 208

Outlining 209

Guidelines for Outlining 211

Mapping 215

Guidelines for Mapping 217

Note Taking 218

Paraphrasing 218 Guidelines for Paraphrasing 220 Note Taking: The Cornell Method 221 Guidelines for the Cornell Method 221

Summary 223

James M. Henslin, "A New World Order?" 224 Guidelines for Summary 225 Jackson J. Spielvogel, "The Witchcraft Craze" 226

Selection 1 Charles W. L. Hill, "The Internet and the World Wide Web" 229

Selection 2 Patricia Churchland and Paul Churchland, "Computer IQ" 233

Selection 3 Charles Krauthammer, "Saved by Immigrants" 238

■ CHAPTER 7

Reading for College Classes 243

Scanning 243

Guidelines for Scanning 244 Daniel J. Curran and Claire M. Renzetti, "Global Insights" 248 "What Are the Principal Greenhouse Gases, and What Are They Doing in the Air?" 249

Skimming 250

Guidelines for Skimming 252 Julie Anthony, "The Fit Player" 253 Postlethwait, Hopson, and Veres, "Sexually Transmitted Disease: A Growing Concern" 255

Reading Graphics 257

How to Read Graphics 257 Guidelines for Reading Graphics 257 ■ Pictures and Photographs 259 ■ Diagrams 261 ■ Maps 261 ■ Tables 264 ■ Graphs and Charts 264 ■ Flowcharts 268

Applying Reading Skills to a Textbook Chapter 268

Tom L. McKnight, "Preface," Essentials of Physical Geography; Chapter 9. "The Biosphere" 270 "The Tropical Rainforest" 275

Selection 1 Tom L. McKnight, "Rainforest Removal" 276

Selection 2 Mark A. Norell, Eugene S. Gaffney, and Lowell Dingus, "How Large Were the Biggest Dinosaurs?" 282

Selection 3 Ronald J. Ebert and Ricky W. Griffin, "Crafty Brewers with a Marketing Angle" 286

CHAPTER 8

Studying for College Classes 290

Preparing for Class 290

Participating in Class 291

"Biological Theories on Aging" 293

Strategies for Retention 294

Preparing for Testing 296

Preparing for Short-Answer Forms of Testing 296 Guidelines for Short-Answer Testing 296 John H. Postlethwait et al., "Homo Sapiens" 297 Essay Tests 302 Jackson J. Spielvogel, "The Reformation in England" 304

Selection 1 Vincent Ryan Ruggiero, "The Basis of Moral Judgment" 308

Selection 2 James M. Rubenstein, "The Impact of Religion on the Landscape" 314

Selection 3 Abigail Trafford, "The Unheeding Addict" 319

■ CHAPTER 9

Reading Expressive Writing 325

Characteristics of Expressive Writing 326

Connotation 327

Sentence Style 329

Figurative Language 330

Reading Descriptive Essays 333

Reading Narrative Essays 337

Reading Fiction 341

Narrative Structure 342 Character 342 Point of View 343 Style and Tone 344 Kate Chopin, "The Story of an Hour" 344

Reading Poetry 348

Robert Herrick, "To Daffodils" 349 Langston Hughes, "Dream Deferred" 351 Amy Lowell, "Taxi" 352 A. E. Housman, "Is My Team Ploughing" 353

Selection 1 Tracy Kidder, "Mrs. Zajac" 355

Selection 2 James Thurber, "The Secret Life of Walter Mitty" 361

Selection 3 Annie Dillard, "The Chase" 368

■ Chapter 10

Reading—and Thinking—Critically 374

Characteristics of the Critical Reader 376

Understanding Facts 376

Understanding Opinion 378

"Just" an Opinion 380 Personal Preferences 380 Judgments 380 Inferences 381 Guidelines for Evaluating Inferences 382 Guidelines for Evaluating Judgments 383

Recognizing Your Biases 387

The Writer's Stance 388

Attitude 389 Tone 392 Hyperbole, Understatement, and Irony 394 Dave Barry, "Unplugged" 396

Evaluating Arguments and Taking a Stand 400

Recognizing Logical Fallacies 400 Taking a Stand 403 Ernest van den Haag, from "The Ultimate Punishment: A Defense" 404 Anthony G. Amsterdam, from "Capital Punishment" 405

Selection 1 Lester C. Thurow, "Why Women Are Paid Less Than Men" 407

Selection 2 Peter H. Gibbon, "Apologize for Columbus?" 412

Selection 3 John Feinstein, "Lemon Bowl" 417

■ CHAPTER 11

Living and Working in the Twenty-First Century 423

Rebecca J. Donatelle and Lorraine G. Davis, "Environmental Health" (Chapter 23 from Access to Health) 424

Reed Karaim, "The Noisy Death of Silence" 436

Amy E. Schwartz, "Visions of the On-Line University-In 3-D" 441

Peter F. Drucker, "The Emerging Knowledge Society" 446

William Raspberry, "Will Our Future Be Workable?" 452

Ellen Goodman, "Where Is Home?" 456

Joseph A. Califano, Jr., "A Weapon in the War on Drugs: Dining In" 460

Richard Rodriguez, "El Futuro: The New California" 465

Alun M. Anderson, "Facing Science Fact—Not Fiction" 470

Glossary 475

Index 483