

SQ3R Textbook Reading Method

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Objectives

This worksheet is designed to help you develop a process for learning material from your textbooks. You will learn:

- What SQ3R is and why it is helpful
- How to implement SQ3R

What is SQ3R?

SQ3R is a study method for learning material from a textbook. It is an acronym that stands for:

SURVEY
QUESTION
READ
RECITE
REVIEW

Why SQ3R?

1. SQ3R is more efficient than reading the text over and over again with eyes glazed over.
2. College reading is more demanding than in college. SQ3R helps you understand and retain the information in the text.
3. SQ3R helps you predict what may be on the exam.
4. SQ3R works well with note-taking strategies – especially Cornell Notes
5. SQ3R was developed by Francis P. Robinson, an OSU psychologist so it must be good!

<https://www.nhti.edu/student-resources/where-can-i-get-help-my-studies/study-solutions-lab/reading-and-learning-sq3r>

SURVEY

The goal here is to get the main ideas of the reading.

Glance at:

- Goals and Objectives (tell you what you should be learning)
- Section / Topic Headings
- Introduction & Summary

QUESTION

Here is where the brilliance begins. Turn all the section headings in the chapter into questions. (If you are using Cornell Notes, these questions go in the far-left column.) This will later serve as your study guide. Here is an example:

Heading: **Penguin Species**

*You notice while **surveying** the reading that there seemed to be several species of penguin and possible controversy over the number. Your questions might include:*

- *How many species of penguin are there?*
- *How did scientists determine the number of species of penguin?*
- *What are the 17 species of penguin?*

READ

Actively read to the end of the section with the goal of answering the above questions. Write the answers down next to the questions.

RECITE

After reading the section, try to answer the questions in your own words. If you get stuck, repeat the SQRR steps again. *Note: This can be a pitfall. Make sure that you **actually know** the information rather than “feel” you know the information. Many students do poorly on exams because they “felt” they knew the material.*

REVIEW

When you have completed the above steps for the whole chapter, look back at your notes to figure out how all the sections fit together. Then try to recall the main points (headings) and the subpoints (details).

