

## READING Strategy → SQ3R

---

### Reading component

### Comprehension

### Overview of the strategy

The SQ3R (Survey, Question, Read, Recite, Review) strategy, developed by Robinson, is a thorough study strategy that promotes active reading at all phases of the reading process. Students preview and develop questions before reading, read actively searching for answers, and summarize during the reviewing process.

### Strategy procedure

1. Create, display, and/or distribute an SQ3R How-To-Chart (see below), and discuss it with students.
2. Choose or write a short informational text on the students' instructional level that has subheadings in it. Distribute the text, and instruct the students to read it. Model how to perform each step of SQ3R with the text.
3. Assign partners. Choose and distribute another similar informational text on the students' independent reading level, and instruct the pairs to perform each step of the SQ3R How-To Chart with it.
4. Repeat with more challenging text, and move toward independent reading.

Sample SQ3R How-To Chart	
Survey to activate prior knowledge.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Read and think about the title.</li><li>• Look at all the subheadings, graphics, and illustrations.</li><li>• Skim by reading the first sentence of each paragraph.</li><li>• Read the first paragraph.</li><li>• Read the last paragraph and summary.</li></ul>
Question to set purpose(s) for reading.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Turn the title into a question, and write it down.</li><li>• Write down questions based on your survey.</li><li>• Turn each subheading into a question, and write them down, leaving room for the answers.</li><li>• Record each vocabulary word printed in bold or italics, leaving room for definitions.</li></ul>
Read carefully and actively.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Read carefully searching for the answers to your questions.</li><li>• Write down the answers next to the questions as you find them.</li><li>• Use the context and/or footnotes to find definitions for the vocabulary words, and write these down as you find them.</li><li>• Mark unclear passages. and seek clarification for them.</li></ul>
Recite to summarize and remember.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Reread a question, and try to retell or write the answer without looking at notes or text.</li><li>• State or write a summary of the passage.</li><li>• Reread for answers to unanswered questions.</li></ul>
Review for a test.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Answer all questions orally and/or in writing.</li><li>• Organize the information for studying.</li><li>• Summarize in the form of a graphic organizer.</li></ul>

### Source

- F. Robinson, *Effective Study* (New York: Harper and Row, 1961).