CREATE MENTAL IMAGES

Constantly create ‘mind pictures’ as you read, visualizing action, characters, or themes.

REPAIR UNDERSTANDING
WHEN MEANING BREAKS DOWN

- ASK SOMEONE FOR HELP
- USE A DICTIONARY OR OTHER REFERENCE
- REREAD
- LOOK AT THE WORD IN CONTEXT
- READ AHEAD FOR CLARIFICATION
- TAKE A BREAK AND TRY AGAIN LATER

Reading literature?
Note places where you appreciate the artistry or style of language and the effect it has on your relationship with the story!

DETERMINE IMPORTANCE

Continually sort through and prioritize information as you read.

Analyze everything from text features in nonfiction texts like bullets and headings, to verbal cues in novels like strong verbs.

Looking for these clues can help you sift through the relative value of different bits of information in texts.

If it’s a text you can write on, jot notes in the margins, summarizing information you want to remember. Highlight things you want to come back to later. Sticky notes can also be useful in making note of important passages.
MAKE CONNECTIONS
Activate your background knowledge to connect what you’re reading to what you already know.

Consider how the text relates to you: your experiences, ideas, knowledge, and understanding. (This is also called using and creating “schema”.)

SYNTHESIZE INFORMATION
Once you have made meaning of the text, integrate your new understanding into your life.

This is the most sophisticated of the comprehension strategies! Connect, question, infer meaning, and evaluate the text you’ve read.

DRAW INFERENCES
Use your prior knowledge about a topic and the information you have gleaned from the text to make educated guesses about the material... and predictions about what might happen next.

QUESTION THE TEXT
Always ask questions as you read. Make note of the things you wonder about, and areas that need clarification.