**Effective Reading: SQ3R**

SQ3R involves five steps that can be applied to books, articles, or chapters.  It stands for:

**Survey →Question →Read → Recall → Review**

A **survey** gives you a quick preview of what you will be reading.  For a book look over the title page, table of contents, introduction, summaries, index and bibliography.  For chapters or articles glance at the headings, first paragraphs, key words, photos, graphs, exercises.  This will give you an idea of what to expect and activates the thinking process.

**Survey**

Then develop a set of **questions**, preferably your own.  These can be questions raised from your survey, ones based on your previous knowledge or even the ones in the back of a chapter.  This will make you concentrate more as you read and help you to read more critically.

**Question**

* Conversational reading - keeping an internal conversation going with author
* Take notes, underline, write key ideas in the margin, and use concept maps
* Try to answer your questions as you read
* Reread difficult bits out loud

**Read**

* **actively, carefully, critically**
* Check new vocabulary
* Look for relationships or links to your existing knowledge in the area
* Recognise critical details the author uses to support his/her argument,

such as facts or examples

* Use deep processing strategies to understand the material
* If you are reading to *memorise*, you will want to use recitation, copying and mnemonics.
* Once you think you understand what you are reading, evaluate it - is the information provided accurate, limited, biased, and logical?

Try to **recall** the ideas you have learned in your reading; in your own words try to describe the author’s main ideas and argument.  If the reading is complicated more frequent recall will probably be needed.

**Recall**

**Review**

You **review** to see if you have answered all your questions and also to check how well you have recalled the material.  Think of it as self-examination.