The SQ3R Reading Method

This reading method was developed to help students read with purpose and understand complex information. The name comes from the first letters of the activities the student is asked to do in this method — Survey, Question, Read, Recite and Review. It is particularly useful to help you get through your weekly set readings.

Survey
- Skim the title, headings, subheadings, captions, charts, graphs and any other visual material (this gives you a preview of the whole chapter before you read in full).
- Look for any chapter or weekly tutorial questions, if applicable, (these will provide a focus before you start to read).
- Read the introductory and concluding paragraphs and chapter summaries.

Question
- Turn the title, headings and subheadings into questions (this will focus your attention on what information to look for in that section).
- Write down any questions you have as you are reading through the content (this helps develop your attention and concentration).
- Ask yourself – How does this relate to the unit and what I already know?

Read
- Try to find answers to the questions you raised.
- Try to answer the chapter and/or tutorial questions.
- Pay attention to any underlined, italicized, bold words or phrases and graphic aids.
- Slow down when reading difficult passages.
- Break your reading into manageable size chunks. Read small sections at a time and recite after each section.

Recite
- After you have read each section, ask yourself questions about what you have just read – try to answer in your own words.
- Underline or highlight important points you have just read.
- Take notes – use your own words.
- In this way you use all your senses to take in the information – SEE, SAY, HEAR, WRITE.

Review
- This is an ongoing process.
- Regularly review your notes.
- Summarise what you have read at the end of each section.
- Use concept maps and flash cards to help you remember what you have read.

PHOTO REFERENCE
'student in classroom reading, long brown hair ’, In: http://www.shropshire.gov.uk/res.nsf/A5D019A32FB1A7C7802573370032A1AB/$file/student.jpg, ed, 2009,