## SQ3R: Survey, Question, Read, Recite, Revision:

## A five step reading strategy

## Survey

**Survey the chapter or book that you will be reading. Take note of:**

* **Title, chapter titles and/or headings**
* **Abstract of an article or the back cover of a book for a general overview**
* **A review of the text**
* **Skim the introduction**
* **Scan through pictures, charts, graphs or maps**

## Question

* **Find the question that the author posed when approaching the research. You will find this is in the introduction and in the introductory paragraphs of book chapters.**
* **Read a review of the article to see if any deficiencies have been noted in the author’s research. Are there questions left unanswered?**
* **What do you know about the subject? Have you any questions that you are bringing to the text? What do you want to learn from reading the text?**

## Read

* **Look for answers to the questions that you first raised.**
* **Take notes as you read based on your questions. Try to write most of your notes in your own words. This is better for understanding and learning rather than transcribing text word for word.**
* **Look at past papers to see if any questions correspond to the material you have read and see if you can answer those questions.**

## Recite

* **At the end of a paragraph, summarize aloud what you have read.**
* **Use TextHelp Read & Write Gold to read your text.**
* **Use TextHelp Read & Write Gold to read your own notes or consider recording yourself on a mobile phone or computer. Listen back to your notes.**
* **Make mnemonics or acronyms of the important points, or find rhythmic patterns in your notes in order to commit them to memory.**

## Review

* **After you have read and recited the entire chapter, write questions in the margins for those points you have highlighted or underlined.**
* **If you took notes while reciting, write questions for the notes you have taken in the left hand margins of your notebook.**
* **Page through the text and/or your notebook to re-acquaint yourself with the important points.**
* **Cover the right hand column of your text/note-book and orally ask yourself the questions in the left hand margins.**
* **Orally recite or write the answers from memory.**
* **Make "flash cards" for those questions which give you difficulty.**
* **Develop mnemonic devices for material which need to be memorized.**
* **Alternate between your flash cards and notes and test yourself (orally or in writing) on the questions you formulated.**
* **Make additional flash cards if necessary.**

## Revision

* **In your notebook, use the text to make a ‘Table of Contents’ listing all the topics and sub-topics you will need to know from the chapter.**
* **From the Table of Contents, make a study sheet.**
* **Recite the information orally and in your own words as you put the study sheet together.**
* **Now that you have consolidated all the information you need for that chapter, periodically review the study sheet so that at exam time you will not have to cram.**

