

RECh: Read, Explain, and Check

With a partner, or in small groups, do the following:

Read a Short Passage Silently:

Read a single paragraph or a short section of the text. If the material is dense or difficult, choose a single sentence, or even a single phrase.

Explain:

When all of your group members are done reading the passage, one person should explain the text in her or his own words (paraphrase). Attempt to do so without looking back at the text.

Check:

Discuss the following with your partners: Were all of the important ideas covered? Was something added that was not in the passage? Does anyone interpret the material differently? If so, look back at the text to find support for the various explanations. Point to reading tools that help you decipher the text, such as defining vocabulary, using context from surrounding passages, and breaking the information down into smaller chunks.

Continue to the next sentence or passage and choose a new group member to explain.