SQ4R method improves both comprehension and grades.

| Before you read, **Survey** the chapter | • The title, headings, and subheadings.  
  • Captions under pictures, charts, graphs or maps.  
  • Review questions or teacher-made study guides.  
  • Introductory and concluding paragraphs.  
  • Summary.  
  • Try to get an overview of what lies ahead. |
| Question while you are surveying | • Turn the title, headings, and/or subheadings into questions.  
  • Read questions at the end of the chapters or after each subheading.  
  • Ask yourself, "What did my instructor say about this chapter or subject when it was assigned?"  
  • Ask yourself, "What do I already know about this subject?"  
  • Example, the heading "Stages of Sleep" might lead you to ask: "Is there more than one stage of sleep?" What are they and how do they differ?" Asking questions helps you read with a purpose. |
| When you begin to **Read** | • Look for answers to the questions you first raised.  
  • Answer questions at the beginning or end of chapters or study guides.  
  • Reread captions under pictures, graphs, etc.  
  • Note all the underlined, italicized, bold printed |

**Note:** If it is helpful to you, write out these questions for consideration. This variation is called SQW4R
Study graphic aids.
- Reduce your speed for difficult passages.
- Stop and reread parts which are not clear.
- Read only a section at a time and recite after each section.

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<tr>
<th>Recite after you've read a section:</th>
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<td>- Orally ask yourself questions about what you have just read and/or summarize, in your own words, what you read.</td>
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<td>- Take notes from the text but write the information in your own words.</td>
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<td>- Underline/highlight important points you've just read.</td>
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<td>- Use the method of recitation which best suits your particular learning style.</td>
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<tr>
<td>- Remember to look for answers as you read and to recite or take notes before moving on.</td>
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<td>- Recite key terms and concepts.</td>
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<th>Relate</th>
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<td>- It is easier to remember ideas that are personally meaningful.</td>
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<td>- When you study a chapter, try to link new facts, terms, and concepts with information you already know.</td>
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<th>Review an ongoing process.</th>
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<td>- When you’re done reading, skim back over the chapter, or read your notes. Then check your memory by reciting and quizzing yourself again.</td>
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<td>- Make frequent review a key part of your study habits.</td>
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Textbook Reading: How it’s Done

1. Previewing (getting the big picture)
   - Quickly skim the Chapter Title and begin thinking about the topic and your purpose for reading
   - Does the chapter begin with Objects or an Outline
   - Read the Introduction for an overview
   - Read the Major Headings for a quick idea of key concepts
   - Did you notice key terms? How can you tell?
   - Read the Chapter Summary for a condensed version
   - Are there questions at the end of the chapter?

2. Reading each section with a question in mind
   - Why? It’s easier to find an answer if you have a question
   - How? Use the heading/subheadings that begin each section. As you come to each new heading or subheading, just turn it in to a question
   - What kinds of questions work? Open-ended questions that begin with “What…?”; “Why…?”; or “How?”

3. Notetaking/annotating (jot down some notes as you go)
   - Read actively. Search for the answer to your questions, but get bogged down by too many details.
   - Look for:
     - Main ideas (first and last sentences of paragraph)
     - Bold faced terms and details that explain them
     - Examples that make abstract ideas understandable

Repeat the questioning, reading, and note-taking process until you are ready to stop. Do a brief review, pulling ideas back into a whole. You can review later again.
Tell me about your reading

1. What kinds of things were happening in your mind as you read this?

2. What did you do that helped you understand the reading?

3. What questions or problems do you still have with this piece?

4. In your own words, write one or two sentences that tell the most important ideas in this piece?
The Reading Cycle
(how to become an excellent reader)

The more you read ... the better you get

The better you get ... the more you like it

The more you like it .. the more you will read

(repeat until you feel enjoyment)