

Reading Science Textbooks

Reading science textbooks requires a different strategy. With so many *definitions, facts, concepts, and scientific arguments* to learn and memorize, you need to

COME UP WITH A PLAN to TRAIN YOUR BRAIN!



*“Science is organized knowledge”
Herbert Spencer (1820-1903)
English philosopher*

PREVIEW

- Survey the chapter
- Quickly page through the introduction, summary, vocabulary list, self-test questions, headings, bold-faced material, major graphics, etc .
- Do not take notes or highlight anything



READ ONCE

- Relate words to pictures and graphs
- Link comparisons and examples to descriptions and meanings
- Underline lightly at first, then go back and assess - only highlight key points



REVIEW

- Mark what is important using key abbreviations*
- Create your own visual cues
- Recite the information outloud



READ AGAIN

- Do you understand it? If not, try videos, tutoring or other supplemental material
- Are you able to recall definitions and concepts?
- *Recite out loud* what you've learned



“D” - definition
“F” - descriptive fact,
“C” - cause-and-effect statement
“A” for a scientific argument
“Δ” for the word change
“?” for what you do not understand
“!” next to important concepts
Circle terms you do not understand

*Adapted from Becoming a Master Student (D. Ellis)
and Study Guides and Strategies website.*