

Some **STRATEGIES** for clarifying your understanding while **READING**

1. **Ignore and Read On-** If what you don't understand doesn't get in the way of your ability to understand most of the text you are reading, just keep going.
2. **Keep Reading for Clarification-** See if reading further on in the text helps clarify what you didn't understand.
3. **Reread What is Unclear-** See if rereading a passage helps you understand it better.
4. **Reread the Section Just Before What was Unclear-** Sometimes reading the section of text just before a passage that was unclear to you will help clarify what you didn't understand.
5. **Connect to Previous Knowledge-** Use your previous knowledge to see if that helps you understand a passage that's unclear to you.
6. **Get Outside Help-** Use a dictionary, reference book, map, atlas, the Internet, or ask someone for their point of view of what is written to help clarify something you didn't understand or were unclear of confused about.
7. **Paraphrasing-** Try putting what you're reading into your own words to see if that helps clarify the meaning.

Practice

1. **Predicting:** Getting a sense of what's coming next, what kind of rhetorical strategy the author is using to organize his/her writing .
2. **Picturing:** Trying to form a picture in your mind of what's being described or discussed.
3. **Making Connections:** Connecting what you're reading to things that you know, other things you've read, things that came earlier in the same piece you're reading.
4. **Identifying Problems:** Being aware of when you get confused, lost, or aren't sure of what's being said. (See strategies above) AND then try . . .
5. **Clarifying:** Taking steps to try to deal with the problems you identify.
6. **Questioning:** Asking questions about things you don't understand,

things you wonder about, things you're trying to figure out.