



THE SEVEN RECOMMENDED STEPS FOR USING EDITORIALS & REVIEWS TO IMPROVE SPEED, COMPREHENSION AND VOCABULARY.

1. Scan the article backwards* for at least three (3) new vocabulary words; underline them. (If there are not three, select another article.)
2. Cut the article out and tape it into a notebook. Do your work below or on the next page.
3. Read the topic sentences of each paragraph, put them into question form, and write them down.
4. Time yourself as you read rapidly for the main idea. Use a pen creating a 'Z-motion' to pace your reading.
5. Write down the main idea in a complete sentence. (If you are having difficulty writing the main idea in a concise statement, find and write down the answers to your preview questions first.)
6. Figure out the meanings of the vocabulary words from the context clues; validate with a dictionary.
7. In a separate section of your notebook, keep a running list of all of the words and their definitions.

*Scanning backwards prevents you from reading the article and recognizing a potential vocabulary word from context clues. Remember, if you are not comfortable with the word, in that you cannot use it in speech or writing, you need to learn it!!!

BONUS: HOW TO COMPUTE YOUR SPEED wpm (words per minute,)

1. Count the average number of words on any three or four (complete) lines.
2. Count the number of lines and multiply by the average number of words.
3. Divide your time into the number of words in the text.

EXAMPLE:

line a: 9 words; line b: 10 words; line c: 11 words

AVERAGE: 9 WORDS X 60 LINES = 540 WORDS. If the passage were read in 1 minute and 30