

How can I improve my reading skills?

The following tips will help you with your reading skills.

1. EASY

Your material should be easy. If you don't understand more than 10 words per page, then try something easier!

2. VARIETY

You should try and read as many different types of texts as possible: anything from newspapers, books, online reviews, journals or comics. In fact read anything!

3. YOUR CHOICE

Make sure you read only what you want to read. If you don't like it then read something else.

4. READ AS MUCH AS POSSIBLE

Try to read for at least 1 hour per day. If you read more than this, well done!

5. PLEASURE, GENERAL KNOWLEDGE AND UNDERSTANDING

Remember, you are reading for enjoyment and to improve your knowledge of the world. You are NOT reading to analyse the grammar structures of your texts: but don't worry, if there is anything you don't understand, ask me in class or in our tutorial.

6. NO QUESTIONS OR TESTS

Remember when you read you are not reading to prepare for an exam or to answer grammar questions.

7. DICTIONARIES

Try to concentrate on improving your reading speed; that is, don't spend too long looking up every unknown word in your dictionary. Remember though, if you DO want to know the meaning of a word, use your English-English dictionary.

8. WHEN AND WHERE?

Read whenever and wherever you want. If you like reading in bed before turning off the light, then do so. Or if you like reading on the bus as you travel to university, then do that. In fact the answers to these questions are entirely up to you.

9. LIBRARY

You can borrow story books (with accompanying cassettes from the ELTC). You can also borrow story books from the Information Commons: shelf number 428.24076. All the books are labelled according to level.