HOW TO ENHANCE SPEED IN READING AND COMPREHENSION

by:
Julie Ann S. Torres
Teacher III, New San Jose Elementary School

A good reader quickly perceives what he reads. He knows that the whole is more significant than the parts. He does not read word by word but by phrases, clauses, or whole sentences. He does not vocalize as he reads, for vocalization encourages reading by words because one is held back by the pronunciation of words.

Furthermore, reading is one of the greatest and satisfying pleasures of human beings because much of the children activity rely so much on reading. Without this foundation, children will struggle to achieve academically. Reading is defined in the dictionary as the intelligent interpretation of a printed page. The given definition of reading comprehension is already incorporated. (Webster Dictionary and Thesaurus 2005). By reading well, one can think well also, thus respect and good opinion from others can be gained.

Here are some tips on how to enhance speed and better comprehension:

1. Try to read more and more. Remember the saying that practice makes perfect. Better still correct practice makes perfect.
2. Learn to develop skills in scanning the main ideas. Look for the subject and predicate. Spend less time on details or unimportant words.
3. Learn to read with concentration, think of what you are reading. Don’t let your attention wander. Good readers read to understand what they read.
4. Budget your time, experiment with your reading time. Purposely try to read faster, give yourself a time limit on each specific material that you read.
5. Increase your span of perception by absorbing more ideas or words at a single perception. Make better use of your peripheral vision and increase the width of your eye span, work conscientiously, you can expect lasting results within twenty weeks of this short daily practice.

6. Observe the following suggestions:
   A. Do not try to go too fast.
   B. Do not be conscious of your eye movements.
   C. Feel if you are going faster. Have confidence in yourself.
   D. If you happen to miss a word or phrase don’t just keep on reading.
   E. Absorb the ideas quickly but do not force yourself. Don’t rush.

7. Build a large vocabulary through extensive readings. By reading a lot one becomes less conscious of individual words.

8. Develop the dictionary habit, but don’t depend too much on the dictionary. Each time you come across a strange word try to figure out from the context what it can mean. If you cannot do this, refer to the dictionary. Be alert, be curious about new words.

9. Develop intellectual curiosity by reading difficult material. You increase your reading skills by reading books of increasing difficulty. An exploration of different materials in reading is important.

10. Merely grasping the writer’s idea is not enough. Be an active, not a passive reader. Develop the habit of drawing your conclusion, of thinking actively, of agreeing or disagreeing with the author, keep an open mind, understand and weigh ideas that your read. A practical part of active reading is the ability to conclude.

References:

https://www.wabisabilearning.com/blog/10-ways-improving-reading-comprehension
Webster Dictionary and Thesaurus 2005