SQ3R – A Reading and Study Skill System

**Survey**

* Read the chapter title.
  + Focus your mind on the material to come.
* Read the introduction and/or summary.
  + See how this chapter fits the author’s purposes and focus on the author’s statement of most important points.
* Notice each boldface heading and subheading.
  + Build a structure for the thoughts and details to come.
* Notice any graphics (charts, maps, diagrams, etc.). They are there to make a point
  + Don’t skip over them.
* Notice reading aids (*italics*, **boldface** print, chapter objectives, end-of-chapter questions).
  + They are included to help you sort, comprehend, and remember.

Question

* One section at a time, turn the boldface heading into as many questions (How? What? Why?) as you think will be answered in that section. The better the questions, the better your comprehension is likely to be.
* You may always add further questions as you proceed.
* When your mind is actively searching for answers to questions, it becomes engaged in learning.
* These target questions will also allow you to anticipate future exam questions.

Read

* Actively read each section with your questions in mind.
* Look for the answers, and notice if you need to make up some new questions.
* Circle vocabulary words, important concepts, names, and dates to help with recall.

Recite

* After each section, stop and recall your questions to see if you can answer them from memory.
* If not, look back again (as often as necessary), and don’t go on to the next section until you can deliver the answers to your questions.

Review

* Once you have finished the entire chapter, use your questions from the headings and see if you can still answer them.
* If not, look back and refresh your memory and then continue.

**This process will retrain your mind to learn as it reads. Once you master it, you will save time and learn content more efficiently.**