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## 50 Strategies for Improving Vocabulary, Comprehension and Fluency (2nd Edition)

By Herrell, Adrienne L.; Jordan, Michael L.

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Interested in improving reading comprehension, but not sure how? Our complete guide explains both how to improve over time and offers tips to help you today. Reading comprehension is the understanding of what a particular text means and the ideas the author is attempting to convey, both textual and subtextual. In order to read any text, your brain must process not only the literal words of the piece, but also their relationship with one another, the context behind the words, how subtle language and vocabulary usage can impact emotion and meaning behind the text, and how the text comes together as a larger, coherent whole.

### 1 Vocabulary Learning Strategies

Norbert Schmitt University of Nottingham Introduction In the last 25 years, the field of second language acquisition has seen the reemergence of interest in one area of language study, vocabulary (Meara, 1987), and the appearance of a newly recognized aspect - learner strategies. Then a taxonomy of vocabulary learning strategies will be proposed and the individual strategies discussed in more detail. Monolingual learners dictionaries themselves have been much improved by a careful consideration of the kinds of information learners need and also the use of large corpora to ensure natural usage. The changes in their vocabulary learning strategies were matched against the changes in their passive and active vocabulary. Findings suggested that at the end of the six-month course, these participants used more varieties of vocabulary learning strategies more frequently than they did six months ago, and that there was more consistency between beliefs and strategies at the end of the course. It was also found that many vocabulary learning strategies correlated significantly with passive vocabulary size (positively) and with the percentage of active vocabulary at the K1 level (negatively).

### Th Comprehension and Fluency. Strategies to Improve Fluency.

- Direct instruction in decoding
- Model fluent reading, then have students reread the text on their own or to their partner
- Provide extensive reading practice
- Work on fluency at the word, phrase, sentence levels as well as longer.

(Palincsar, A. S. & Brown, A. 1984)

- Strategies for reading comprehension
- Teaches self-monitoring for comprehension
- Instructional format in the form of a structured dialogue between teachers and students (students assume role of the teacher)
- Dialogue structured by use of four strategies: predicting, clarifying Good prior knowledge and appropriate experiences certainly enhance comprehension; but wide reading also expands vocabulary and promotes conceptual development. It is very clear that extensive reading practice is essential in building both fluency and knowledge. It is equally clear that good, explicit instruction in some areas provides additional benefit to students.

49. "Readers normally acquire strategies for active comprehension informally. Comprehension strategies are specific procedures that guide students to become aware of how well they are comprehending as they attempt to read and write." (p. 4-5).