



No matter the content area, SQ3R is a great way to stay on top of your course load, and be adequately prepared for any papers and exams that arise. The method is described below:

Survey – Before you read, it is a good idea to get a sense of what the chapter is about. This first step allows you to scan over the following elements:

- the title of the chapter
- section headings and subheadings
- bolded vocabulary terms
- pictures, diagrams, charts, and their captions
- the first, or last, sentence of each section or paragraph

Question – As you scan the chapter, begin to formulate questions to which you’ll find the answers as you read. For example:

- What are the key topics in this chapter or section?
- What are the important terms I need to know in this chapter?
- What does the diagram, chart, or graph tell me?
- From the chapter summary (if included), what are the main ideas I should know?

Read – Take your time and read the chapter. You may want to break it apart by sections and answer the questions generated from the second step.

- Locate key concepts and facts
- Take notes of these concepts on note cards (index cards). You can color code them based on topic, vocabulary, etc.
- Read out loud to help comprehension.
- Jot down answers to the questions previously formulated.

Review/Rehearse – After reading the text, take a moment to review what you’ve learned. Begin to transfer information to your long term memory. You can do this by verbalizing key concepts, facts, and terms from your note cards.

Recite – Challenge yourself to review the content without your notes. This will give you an idea of how much has been comprehended and internalized.

- Rehearse the main concepts in your own words.
- Recall definitions to key vocabulary terms.
- Reflect on questions asked and answered.
- Anticipate possible exam questions (i.e. short answer, essay, true/false)