

HOW TO READ CRITICALLY

1 Have a purpose for reading so that you are reading for meaning.

That is, think of questions and read for answers.

2 Question the reasonableness of what you are reading.

Think: How does it compare with what you already know?

What meanings are implied (not simply stated)?

What conclusions can you reach?

3 Accept or reject new ideas based on what you already know.

Think: Are the author's points valid?

If you decide that they are, add that information to what you already know, or change your opinion, giving up any ideas you had that no longer seem valid.

Φ# Teach this method informally to young children by implementing the suggestions that follow as you read stories aloud.

Skills Developed By Reading Critically:

- £ Set a purpose for listening and reading. (Grades K-8)
- £ Make reasonable predictions and confirm or revise predictions during reading. (Grades K-8)
- £ Make inferences in order to comprehend meaning. (Grades K-8)
- £ Draw conclusions—make generalizations based on reading (or listening). (Grades 1-8)
- £ Make up a reasonable conclusion to a story. (Grades 3-8)
- £ Classify information according to similarities and differences. (Grades 3-8)
- £ Evaluate information and provide evidence to support your opinion. (Grades 4-8)
- £ Recognize a variety of persuasive techniques and ways in which they are used. (Grades 5-8)
- £ Evaluate material for propaganda and bias. (Grades 5-8)