

## *Instead of taking notes...*

**Try a KWL chart:** Before reading, divide a page into three columns. In the “K” column, write what you already know about the subject. In the “W” column, write what you want to know about the subject. After reading the selection, write what you learned in the “L” column.

## **Try a Response Notebook or Log:**

Keep a notebook of ideas about your reading assignments for the course.



For each reading assignment, list the main ideas of the reading, work any examples or problems in the text, ask questions regarding the material, and share any insights or reflections.

## **Helpful Resources at Western:**

Student Development Center 382-1652

Peer Tutor Center 382-1707

Learning Center 382-1829

Hay Library 382-1700



Western Wyoming Community College  
Instructional Support Office ~ room 1310  
382-1810

## **Active Reading Strategies**



**Western  
Wyoming  
Community  
College**

## FRUSTRATED?



- Do you try to read the material assigned, but have difficulty staying focused?
- Do you forget the material you read when it comes time to answer questions on a test or quiz?
- Do you feel bored out of your mind when you sit down to read?

## THERE IS A BETTER WAY!



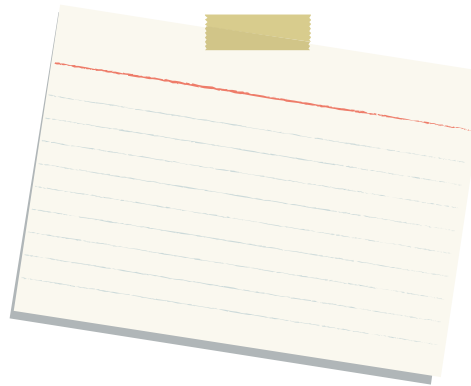
There are many tips and tricks to help you improve your reading abilities and become a more *effective* reader, saving you time and energy.



Using some of the proven active reading techniques in this booklet will make you a more confident reader and a more successful student.

## *Instead of “just reading it...”*

**Try Annotation:** You purchased the textbook for a reason, you paid to print that article; so use it! Take out your favorite pen and underline main ideas, circle new terms, and make comments or ask questions in the margin of the text.



### **Try Flashcards:**

While reading, write down new concepts and terms on flashcards, including a thorough definition on the back of the

card. Use these cards to help you study for a quiz or test. A friend can help you learn new terms by quizzing you informally.

**Try SQR3:** First, **survey** the chapter by looking at titles, headings, subheadings. Next, create **questions** about the reading. Finally, **read** the selection carefully, **recite** the main points aloud, and **review** the material by writing down what you learned.

## *Instead of diving right in...*

**Take the time to Preview:** Before

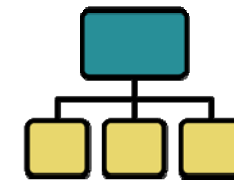


reading, take 5 to 10 minutes to look at the text beforehand. Read the titles, headings, and subheadings. Look at any charts, tables, or words

in bold. Read the first and last paragraphs in the section. Read the first sentence of each paragraph in the section. Giving yourself an opportunity to preview means you'll better understand what you read.

## *Instead of outlining...*

**Try Concept Mapping:** Place the central idea of the reading in



the middle of the paper with a circle around it.

Create connecting lines to show supporting evidence, and link those to further “bubbles” to show more detailed ideas. Keep your concept map for later study about the topic.