



英文文獻閱讀技巧

Getting Ready to Read for Graduate School

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Some Other Useful Resources



- 交大圖書館研究攻略營 2009~
 - <http://www.lib.nctu.edu.tw/html/categoryid-26/id-200/>
- 研究生2.0:記錄研究生需要具備的知識與工具，並介紹研究相關的觀念與軟體
 - <http://newgenerationresearcher.blogspot.tw/>
- Using English for Academic Purposes: A Guide for Students in Higher Education
 - <http://www.uefap.com/reading/>
- How to Read a Scientific Paper @ Purdue Libraries
 - [http://www.lib.purdue.edu/content/tutorials-scientific-](http://www.lib.purdue.edu/content/tutorials-scientific-paper)

Overview



What? Types of academic genres:

Why? Reasons for reading:

How? Ways of reading for understanding:

Types of Academic Genres

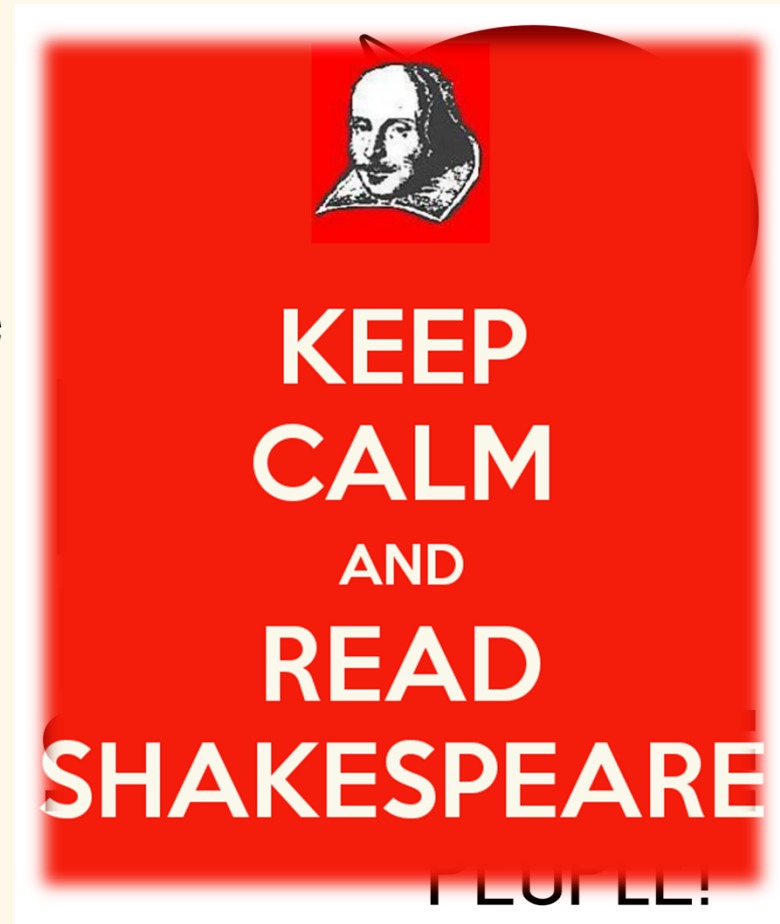
- Academic articles: journal articles, literature reviews, letters to the editors, and book reviews etc.
- Books: textbooks, edited books, conference proceedings, and handbooks etc.
- Conference abstracts or papers
- Grant proposals
- Technical reports
- Theses

What?

Keep Calm!

Academic writing

- ✓ is highly structured and logical
- ✓ follows a particular style and language
- ✓ contains a set of 570 common and frequent headwords (3000 words altogether).



Reasons for Reading



- Because your boss says so
- Enables you to stay up-to-date with the latest research
- Allows you to replicate or extend the results
- Provides you with useful data
- Inspires you
- Teaches you how to write one

Why?

Why Decides How



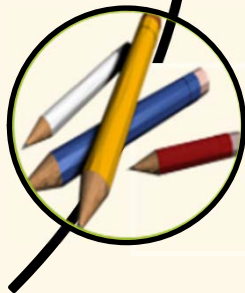
● Reading time, speed, levels of details



Preview, survey, skim it to get general ideas



Read for understanding, read actively, use strategies, highlight and take notes



Read critically, evaluate the results, examine discussion, find implications, write your summary or reflection

Sections of a Research Report



ABSTRACT

1. Background
2. Purpose
3. Method
4. Results
5. Conclusion

INTRODUCTION

1. General statement
2. Literature review
3. Gap or niche
4. Purpose
5. Justification

METHOD

1. Experiment overview
2. Population or sample
3. Location
4. Restrictions
5. Sampling
6. Materials
7. Procedures
8. Analysis

RESULTS

1. Figures or tables
2. Most important findings
3. Comments

DISCUSSION

1. Original hypothesis
2. Findings
3. Explanation
4. Limitations
5. Implications
6. Future research

Suggested Reading Processes



Abstract

Discussion

Introduction

**Results &
Method**

Cf.: www.lib.purdue.edu: How to Read a Scientific Paper

**Preview &
Skim**

**Ask Qs &
Scan**

**Careful
reading for
main points**

**Answer Qs,
evaluate,
and take
notes**

Cf.: Regine's Academic Reading Strategies Worksheet

How?

Strategies for Reading Research Papers (1/2)



★ Build your academic vocabulary.

– AWL Lists:

http://efreeway.avcenter.ntu.edu.tw/freeway/postgraduates/vocab/awl/awl_index.html

– Oxford Advanced Learner's Dictionary

<http://oald8.oxfordlearnersdictionaries.com/academic/>

★ Establish good background knowledge of your own field.

★ Read in English as much as you can.

Strategies for Reading Research Papers (2/2)



1. Think about your purpose of reading.
2. Skim the article and identify its structure.
 - Identify conventional features of the sections and read with an anticipation of these features.
3. Identify main points.
4. Ask comprehension questions and check your understanding.
5. Summarize (paraphrase) and draw inferences.
6. Take notes as you read.

Reading Strategies in Action



Zadnik, K., Jones, L. A., Irvin, B. C., Kleinstejn, R. N., Manny, R. E., Shin, J. A., & Mutti, D. O. (2000). Vision: Myopia and ambient night-time lighting. *Nature*, 404(6774), 143-144.

- Build your academic vocabulary.
 - <http://www.lex tutor.ca/vp/eng/>
- Establish background knowledge.
 - 開燈睡覺可能增加嬰幼兒近視機率?!
 - **night-time lighting and childhood myopia**

Myopia and ambient night-time lighting



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Academic Reading to Writing



Jump
創作

- ✓ Write to communicate (to express, not impress)
- ✓ Write to be understood



Growth
引導

- ✓ Writing is learned through apprenticeships
- ✓ Provides scaffold and support

Start
讀寫

- ✓ Good writers, good readers
- ✓ Increases vocabulary and text knowledge
- ✓ Provides ideas



Helpful
Tips

What Can We Do?



1. I read or listen to something in English every day: Immersion; Data-driven learning
2. I try not to translate words from English to Chinese during reading or listening.
3. I read or speak in phrases rather than word by word.
4. I know I can figure out meaning by relating what I read/hear to my life and to what I know or read before.

5. I try to understand the overall meaning and not to worry about understanding the meaning of every word.
6. If I can say it, I can write it.
7. I focus on fluency and communicating ideas without worrying too much about accuracy.
8. I set realistic goals and stay motivated.
 - Quality children’s books, cartons, or programs: Barney
 - Speech shadowing; repeated exposure
 - NCTU English Classes: 研究生英文課程

Learning English 3Cs



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Thank You! & All the Best!!

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