

Prereading – Answer Sheet

Activity 1. Write your reflection here:

Activity 2. Keep notes about your practice search here:

Activity 3. Along with section, chapter titles, and indentations that stand out unusually, bold writing, or italics, often indicate emphases. When we scan or pre-read to look for what we might encounter, it is sometimes helpful to note these exceptions. Use this worksheet to practice scanning and prereading on the text supplied by your instructor

Step 1: Consider the following questions: Is there a title or author listed? Do you understand all the words of the title (be sure to look them up if you do not)? Is it familiar to you? If so, from where? Do you recognize the author? When did she/he/they live? From what historical moment and context is the writing from?

Take 5 minutes to jot down 3-5 ideas about what kind of document you would expect to be reading here.

Step 2: Take a look at the first sentence. What do you notice about this phrase? Do you know what all the words mean? (If not, look them up . . .) What does the entire sentence mean? Based on the first sentence, is the writing pretty straightforward, or is it going to take you some work to understand?

Take 5 minutes to jot down 3-5 ideas about what expectations you have based on the first sentence.

Step 3: Look at the whole reading and answer the following questions (5-10 minutes)

How long is it, and how long is it likely to take you to read? Is it poetry? prose? --and what does this style of writing tell you about the reading you will undertake?

Is it divided into multiple sections or chapters? Do these sections or chapters have titles or headers?

Do you understand the section or chapter headers, or do you need to look up more words (be sure to look up any words you don't understand that appear as titles of sections or chapters).

Do you understand why the reading has been assigned, and what purpose your instructor might have in assigning it? If you are unsure, check your syllabus for clues. If you are still unsure, spend a moment and give it a guess.