

AP: INTRODUCTION TO THREE-STEP READING

Purpose

Get to know Three-Step Reading—a strategy you can use for anything you read, whether in this course or in your daily life. This activity walks you through the strategy step-by-step, so you'll be prepared to use the [Three-Step Reading Worksheet](#) for other articles in the course.

Process

1. **Skim:** Skim the article [Unit 1 Introduction: The Global Tapestry, c. 1200 to 1450](#) to get a general idea of what it's about. Then, complete the table below.

Look for...	Questions	Your response
Titles and headings	What is this article going to be about?	
Images, image captions, graphs, tables	How do these add to your idea of what the article is going to be about?	

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2. **Key ideas:** As you read the article from beginning to end, focus on identifying the main idea, important details, supporting evidence, and unfamiliar vocabulary. Before you read, review the table on the next page so you know what you should look for as you read.

Look for...	Questions	Your response
Main idea Major claim Thesis statement	What is the main idea of this article?	
Important details	What are important details from the article? (Events, names, dates, places, concepts, for example.)	
Analysis and evidence	What evidence does the author use to support and extend the main idea or major claim? Provide two to three examples.	
Vocab	Are there words you don't understand or recognize?	

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3. **Evaluate:** Now, focus on why this article matters, how it connects to other content you’ve studied, and how it connects to the AP Themes. Since this is the first reading assignment of the course, you may not connect it to much other than the knowledge you already have—that’s ok!

Look for...	Questions	Your response
Logic and credibility	In what ways are the arguments or explanations reliable and effective?	
AP Themes	Which of the AP themes are included in the article and how? Provide an explanation of how the theme is being addressed. Cite specific evidence in your response. PIECES is a helpful reminder for the AP themes.	