

Read Theory

Overview

| Resource Type | Subjects | NRS Level(s) |
|---------------|----------|--------------|
| Online | Reading | ABE 1-6 |

Summary

General Information

Read Theory is an online program that helps students improve reading skills. Students read passages and answer comprehension questions. It utilizes adaptive programming and will automatically level students up and down based on their performance.

There are several subscription levels available for Read Theory. The free version is ad-supported. The Premium versions offer an ad-free experience for various numbers of students as well as some additional controls for instructors (described in the Instruction section below).

Technology Requirements

The program can be used with any web browser.

Mobile Accessibility

Read Theory does not have an app available for download. The platform will work using the URL on a mobile browser, but students must scroll up/down more frequently versus accessing their lessons on a larger device. The writing questions are not formatted to fit smaller screens, but students can skip them without penalty.

Logistics

Teachers can manually add students to a class or send students a class code to join. There is no limit on class size or number of classes that may be associated with a free account. Premium accounts do have limits on the number of students per account.

Reports

There are no time on task reports available. Time is awarded using the teacher verification method. Students are given 10 minutes for each completed lesson. There are class and student progress reports available to teachers, including quiz history, lexile/grade level progression, and Common Core Standards. Some more detailed reporting around student skills is available with a Premium subscription.

Instruction

The content was designed to be aligned with the Common Core State Standards. It would also align well with CCRS. There is no reading instruction provided, though explanations are provided for correct answers. Students take a pre-test and are placed accordingly. They are asked to read passages and answer multiple choice questions. Instructors can also turn on a feature that will add a written response question to each quiz. These responses must be hand-graded by the teacher. A rubric is provided, but its use is not required.

Read Theory is adaptive, meaning that students are moved up and down levels based on their performance, and reading passages are assigned automatically. There are no additional formative or summative assessments. Students can earn “knowledge points” and badges. The content was designed for K-12 instruction, but few passages are overly childish.

Instructors with a Premium subscription can also assign specific passages to classes or students, set custom weekly goals, control reading levels, and launch class competitions.

Student Interface

Students can easily find their lessons, and content is readily available to them as they take quizzes. They can see what they’ve completed and tell whether they’ve mastered content. Students can see reports similar to those that instructors see except that instructors can decide whether they see information about the grade level of individual reading passages, or only their average Lexile level.

Students using the free version of Read Theory will see a lot of ads. It is easy to accidentally click into these ads, and some include video and other distracting elements..

Teacher Interface

The teacher interface is fairly easy to learn, and there is assistance available through an automated chat and a help center website. Instructors can add additional “Team Members” to view and manage a class. Instructors can view every passage their students have completed, including their answers. Because the reading selections are automated, teachers will mainly use the interface for adding/editing students, monitoring progress, and (optionally) grading written responses.

Accessibility Features

Online platforms may include different accessibility features to aid learners. The publisher has provided a [Voluntary Product Accessibility Template](#) to help you review the features offered. Information that may help you understand the VPAT is available in our [informational document](#).

You may also contact the publisher’s sales representative or customer support.