

Subject: Reading Texts

Level: L1 LMD

Semester: one; January 2023

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Answer key

Reading comprehension is best understood as the process through which the recognized words are transmitted into a meaningful idea (Hoover and Gough, 1990). In other words, reading comprehension is the ability to build a meaning after decoding the written symbols.

Reading comprehension strategies are: “cognitive or behavioral action[s] that [are] enacted under particular contextual conditions, with the goal of improving some aspect of comprehension”. (McNamara, 2007 :7). They are: pre-reading, during reading, and postreading.

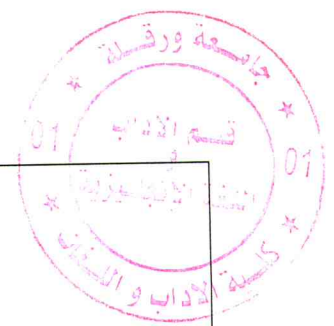
Pre-reading aims at “prepar[ing] the [readers] for a reading selection, or giv[ing] them the first steps in order to develop skills in anticipation and prediction for the reading, activating background knowledge so they could later interact with the text”. (Medina, 2008)

During reading is intended to “help [readers] to understand the specific content and to perceive the rhetorical structure of the text” (Celce-Murcia, 1991 ; in Medina, 2008). In other words, readers, in this stage learn how to interact with the text they read.

In **post-reading**, readers verify and expand the knowledge acquired in the reading. These last tasks also lead the learners to discuss and analyze issues presented in the reading. (Medina, 2008)

A reading response journal is a journal where learners provide information about their at home reading experiences. The journal entries highlight the relationship between the reading material and the reader’ s life experiences, views, emotions, etc. (Boguebs, 2018).

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| <p>Title Author Publication date Publisher Size and number of pages Language</p> | <p>The Alchemist Paolo Coelho Different Different</p> | |
| <p>Author major works</p> | <p>Portuguese, but translated to many languages including English. Maktoub, Brida, the witch of Portobello, etc.</p> | |
| <p>What does the title tell me?</p> | <p>Students have to brainstorm about the story based on the title.</p> | |
| <p>What do I already know about that?</p> | | |



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| <p>What do I expect the story will be?</p> | <p>Students, here, activate their background knowledge in relation to the title. Here, the students mention their predictions about the story.</p> | |
| <p>The story elements:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The story setting • Characters (major, minor, round, flat) • The plot (diagram): exposition, rising events, climax, falling events, resolution. | <p>Time: unclear time in the past. Place: Spain, Tangier, Sahara (Egypt) Protagonist Santiago round Main characters the Alchemist round, king of Salem flat, the gypsy flat, fatima flat, the englishman, the merchant of crystals, the camel driver, santiago s father, etc.</p> <p>Exposition: Santiago's repeated dream whenever sleeping under a sycamore tree outside an ancient church. In the dream, Santiago must go go to Egypt to find the treasure.</p> <p>Rising actions: When Santiago starts to work in the crystal shop and tries to make enough money to travel to the pyramids.</p> <p>Climax: Santiago tried his best to turn himself into wind, and did it in the end.</p> <p>Falling actions: When Santiago met some men and realized that he must return to Spain because he realized that the treasure was buried under an abandoned church.</p> <p>Resolution: When Santiago went back to Spain and found the treasure buried under a Sycamore tree and went back to meet Fatima.</p> | |
| <p>Summary of the story (in five lines)</p> | <p>The Alchemist is about a boy named Santiago. He is an Andalusian shepherd, whose destiny sets into motion when he decides to seek the meaning of his recurring</p> | |

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| | <p>dream which he believes to be prophetic. As per the woman's interpretation, the boy is destined to find a treasure at Egyptian Pyramids.</p> | |
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