

HOW TO BECOME A BETTER READER

**ESP CLASS FOR ISLAMIC EDUCATION PROGRAM (ODD SEMESTER
ACADEMIC YEAR 2020/2012)**



WHY IS READING IMPORTANT WHEN YOU ARE LEARNING A NEW LANGUAGE?

- **HERE ARE SOME IMPORTANT REASONS:**
- **READING HELPS YOU LEARN TO THINK IN THE NEW LANGUAGE.**
- **READING HELPS YOU BUILD A BETTER VOCABULARY**
- **READING MAKES YOU MORE COMFORTABLE WITH WRITTEN ENGLISH. YOU CAN WRITE BETTER ENGLISH IF YOU FEEL COMFORTABLE WITH THE LANGUAGE**
- **READING MAY BE THE ONLY WAY FOR YOU TO USE ENGLISH IF YOU LIVE IN A NON-ENGLISH-SPEAKING COUNTRY.**

REASONS FOR READING

- **1. READING FOR PLEASURE. READ AS MUCH AS YOU CAN. READ BOOKS, MAGAZINES, NEWSPAPER STORIES. READ ANYTHING YOU LIKE. THE MORE YOU READ, THE BETTER YOU UNDERSTAND THE ENGLISH TEXT.**
- **2. WORKING ON YOUR READING SKILLS. WHEN YOU READ, YOU USE MANY DIFFERENT SKILLS.**
- **3. LEARNING TO READ FASTER. READING FASTER IS VERY IMPORTANT BECAUSE OF THE WAY YOUR BRAIN WORKS.**
- **4. LEARNING TO THINK IN ENGLISH. YOU ALSO NEED TO WORK ON UNDERSTANDING ENGLISH SENTENCES.**

HERE ARE SOME IMPORTANT SKILLS YOU NEED TO WORK ON:

- **PREVIEWING. BEFORE YOU START READING, FIND OUT SOMETHING ABOUT WHAT YOU WILL READ. THEN YOU CAN START THINKING ABOUT THE SUBJECT. YOU WILL BE ABLE TO READ FASTER AND WITH MORE UNDERSTANDING.**
- **ASKING QUESTIONS AS YOU READ. THIS KEEPS YOUR MIND ON WHAT YOU READ. ASKING QUESTION HELPS YOU PAY ATTENTION. IT ALSO HELPS YOU TO REMEMBER WHAT YOU READ.**
- **GUESSING WHAT NEW WORDS MEAN. IT TAKES TOO MUCH TIME TO LOOK UP EVERY NEW WORD. AND IF YOU STOP, YOU MAY FORGET WHAT YOU READ. USE THE SENTENCE OR PARAGRAPH TO GUESS WORDS.**
- **FINDING THE TOPIC AND THE MAIN IDEA. THE TOPIC AND THE MAIN IDEA LET YOU KNOW WHAT IS IMPORTANT. TO FIND THE TOPIC AND THE MAIN IDEA, ASK TWO QUESTIONS: WHAT IS THIS ABOUT? WHAT DOES THE WRITER WANT TO SAY ABOUT THIS?**
- **UNDERSTANDING PATTERNS IN ENGLISH. A PATTERN IS A WAY OF PUTTING IDEAS TOGETHER. IF YOU FIND THE PATTERN, YOU CAN UNDERSTAND MORE. YOU WILL ALSO REMEMBER MORE.**
- **USING SIGNAL WORDS. SOME WORDS ARE LIKE SIGNPOSTS ON A HIGHWAY. THEY TELL YOU WHAT DIRECTION IS GOING.**

LET US TRY TO READ FASTER WITH THIS SHORT PASSAGE BELOW

ROSEBUD IS A SMALL TOWN IN NEW JERSEY. IT LOOKS LIKE MANY OTHER TOWNS IN THE UNITED STATES. ON MAIN STREET, THERE IS A POST OFFICE AND A POLICE STATION. THE DRUGSTORE AND THE LIBRARY ARE DOWN THE STREET. THERE IS ALSO A SHOPPING CENTER. IT HAS A SUPERMARKET AND DEPARTMENT STORE. ROSEBUD IS A QUIET PLACE, NOT VERY RICH OR POOR. BUT THE TOWN IS GROWING. THERE ARE NEW HOUSES EVERY YEAR. IT IS A POPULAR PLACE TO LIVE BECAUSE IT IS NEAR NEW YORK CITY. MANY PEOPLE LIVE IN ROSEBUD AND WORK IN NEW YORK.

NOW LOOK AT THE QUESTIONS. TRY NOT TO LOOK AT THE PASSAGE. CHOOSE THE BEST ANSWER

- **1. THIS PASSAGE IS ABOUT: A. NEW YORK CITY B. TOWNS C. ROSEBUD OF NEW JERSEY D. A QUIET PLACE**
- **2. ROSEBUD IS: A. LIKE MANY OTHER AMERICAN TOWNS B. NOT LIKE MANY OTHER AMERICAN TOWNS C. A NOISY PLACE D. A LARGE CITY**
- **3. EVERY YEAR ROSEBUD: A. HAS FEWER HOUSES. B. IS LIKE OTHER AMERICANS TOWNS C. HAS NOISY STREETS D. HAS MORE HOUSES**
- **4. MANY PEOPLE WANT TO LIVE IN ROSEBUD BECAUSE: A. IT IS GROWING B. IT IS A QUIET PLACE C. IT IS NEAR NEW YORK CITY D. IT IS NOT RICH OR POOR.**

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