

Figure 2-A

## Comparing and Contrasting Active and Passive Reader Behaviors by Characteristics

### Active Readers

- Good readers are active readers.
- They construct meaning, self-monitor, adjust and reflect.

#### Before Reading

1. \_\_\_\_ Builds up background knowledge before he/she begins to read.
2. \_\_\_\_ Knows the purpose for reading.
3. \_\_\_\_ Asks himself/herself what the text will be about.
4. \_\_\_\_ Previews the pictures, graphics, title, headings, subheadings, boldface quotes, etc.
5. \_\_\_\_ Makes predictions about what he/she is going to read or learn about in the text.
6. \_\_\_\_ Breaks text into manageable chunks (depending on personal ability).

#### During Reading

1. \_\_\_\_ Gives complete attention to the reading task.
2. \_\_\_\_ Keep his/her purpose in mind.
3. \_\_\_\_ Keeps a constant check on his/her own understanding through self-monitoring.
4. \_\_\_\_ Stops to use a fix-up strategy when comprehension is low.
5. \_\_\_\_ Re-reads for understanding.
6. \_\_\_\_ Connects with the text—asks how what he/she is learning fits with what he/she already knows, or generates strong personal feelings about what he/she is reading.
7. \_\_\_\_ Seeks to understand perspective—asks what the author is trying to say.
8. \_\_\_\_ Continues predicting—asks what is going to happen next.
9. \_\_\_\_ Generates questions and seeks answers.

#### After Reading

1. \_\_\_\_ Decides if he/she has achieved his/her goal.
2. \_\_\_\_ Evaluates comprehension of what was read.
3. \_\_\_\_ Summarizes the major ideas.
4. \_\_\_\_ Reflects on how the new knowledge changes or adds to what he/she already knew.
5. \_\_\_\_ Seeks additional information from outside sources if needed or desired.

### Passive Readers

- Poor readers are passive readers.
- They simply receive information without understanding.

#### Before Reading

1. \_\_\_\_ Starts reading without thinking about the subject.
2. \_\_\_\_ Does not know why he/she is reading.
3. \_\_\_\_ Is not curious about the text.
4. \_\_\_\_ Does not preview text materials.
5. \_\_\_\_ Cannot or does not make predictions about what he/she is going to read.
6. \_\_\_\_ Is overwhelmed by the amount of text to read and defeated by the sea of words.

#### During Reading

1. \_\_\_\_ Is easily distracted.
2. \_\_\_\_ Does not know why he/she is reading.
3. \_\_\_\_ Does not monitor comprehension.
4. \_\_\_\_ Does not know whether he/she understands or does not understand.
5. \_\_\_\_ Does not re-read material.
6. \_\_\_\_ Does not or cannot make a connection between what he/she is reading and his/her own life. Does not have an opinion about what he/she read.
7. \_\_\_\_ Does not make predictions or ask questions as he/she reads.

#### After Reading

1. \_\_\_\_ Does not know if he/she has achieved his/her goal.
2. \_\_\_\_ Does not know what he/she read.
3. \_\_\_\_ Does not follow reading with comprehension self-check.
4. \_\_\_\_ Does no further investigation.

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