

Tips for College Reading

Monographs & Collections

Find the thesis! What major idea ties all of the chapters together? How does each chapter add meaning to that idea?

Textbooks

Start at the end! First, read chapter summaries, scan chapter key words, read comprehension questions then scan the chapter with these signposts in mind.

Fiction & Creative Nonfiction

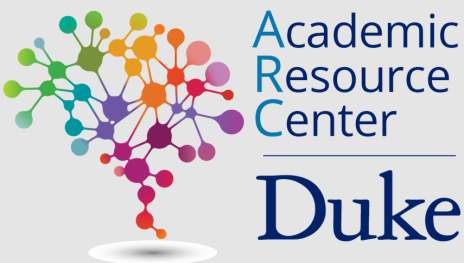
Track the story! Place short summaries on post-it notes throughout the book to mark moments where the story takes shape.

Scholarly papers & Journal Articles

Look for novelty! What is the paper's original contribution to the field? (Thesis, method, sources, findings)

Be an ACTIVE reader!

- Turn chapter headings into questions.
- Use your dictionary.
- Write brief summaries for each section.
- Ask questions of the reading. Why is this important? How does this change how I think about this topic?
- Prepare questions or observations to bring to class.



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