

## **Self-Assessment 1**

For the following survey, think about your reading practices when you are reading a book for enjoyment. This will be a book that you have chosen yourself to read and is not an assignment given by a teacher, lecturer or employer.

You do not need to print this survey, simply write your answers (a-d) on a piece of paper beside the question number. Once you have completed this, you may then return to video lesson in order to go through the answers.

You can take as long as you need to complete this survey.

**In each set of four, choose the one statement that describes the best thing to do in order to help you understand a book *before* you read it.**

1. Before I begin reading, it's a good idea to:
  - a) See how many pages are in the book
  - b) Look up difficult words in the dictionary
  - c) Make some guesses about what I think will happen in the book
  - d) Think about what has happened so far in the book
2. Before I begin reading, it's a good idea to:
  - a) Look at any images to see what the book is about
  - b) Decide how long it will take me to read the book
  - c) Sound out the unfamiliar words
  - d) Check to see if the images are in order and that they make sense
3. Before I begin reading, it's a good idea to:
  - a) Try to find an audio version of the book
  - b) Read the title to see what the story is about
  - c) Check to see I can pronounce most of the words
  - d) Check to see if the story makes sense
4. Before I begin reading, it's a good idea to:
  - a) Check to see that no pages are missing
  - b) Make a list of the words that I am not sure about
  - c) Use the title & any images to help me make guesses about what may happen
  - d) Read the last page so I will know how it ends
5. Before I begin reading, it's a good idea to:
  - a) Decide on why I am going to read the book
  - b) Use the difficult words to help me make guesses about what will happen
  - c) Reread some parts to see if I can figure out what is happening if things aren't making sense
  - d) Look for help with unfamiliar words

6. Before I begin reading, it's a good idea to:
  - a) Retell all of the main points that have happened so far
  - b) Ask myself questions that I would like to have answered in the book
  - c) Think about the meanings of words which have more than one meaning
  - d) Look through the book to find all of the words that have three or four syllables
7. Before I begin reading, it's a good idea to:
  - a) Check to see if I have read this story before
  - b) Use my questions and guesses as a reason for reading the story
  - c) Make sure I can pronounce all of the words before I start
  - d) Think of a better title for the book
8. Before I begin reading, it's a good idea to:
  - a) Think about what I already know about the visuals in the images
  - b) See how many pages are in the book
  - c) Choose the best part of the book to read again
  - d) Read a part of the book aloud to someone
9. Before I begin reading, it's a good idea to:
  - a) Practice reading the book aloud
  - b) Retell all of the main points to make sure that I can remember the story
  - c) Think of what the people in the story might be like
  - d) Decide if I have enough time to read the story
10. Before I begin reading, it's a good idea to:
  - a) Check to see if I understand the story so far
  - b) Check to see if the words have more than one meaning
  - c) Think about where the story may be taking place
  - d) List all of the important details

**In each set of four, choose the one statement that describes the best thing to do in order to help you understand a book *while* you are reading it.**

11. While I am reading, it's a good idea to:
  - a) Read the book slowly so that I will not miss any important parts
  - b) Read the title to see what the story is about
  - c) Check to see the images have anything missing
  - d) Check to see if the story is making sense by seeing if I can tell what has happened so far
12. While I am reading, it's a good idea to:
  - a) Stop to retell the main points to see if I am understanding what has happened so far
  - b) Read the book quickly so that I can find out what happened
  - c) Read only the beginning and the end of the book to find out what it is about

- d) Skip the parts that are too difficult
13. While I am reading, it's a good idea to:
- a) Look at the dictionary for unfamiliar words
  - b) Put the book away and find another one if things aren't making sense
  - c) Keep thinking about the title and use the visuals (if any) to help me decide what is going to happen next
  - d) Keep track of how many pages I have left to read
14. While I am reading, it's a good idea to:
- a) Keep track of how long it is taking me to read the story
  - b) Check to see if I can answer any of the questions that I asked myself before I started reading
  - c) Read the title to see what the book is going to be about
  - d) Add the missing details to the pictures
15. While I am reading, it's a good idea to:
- a) Have someone read the book aloud to me
  - b) Keep track of how many pages I have read
  - c) List the story's main character
  - d) Check to see if my guesses are right or wrong
16. While I am reading, it's a good idea to:
- a) Check to see that the characters are real
  - b) Make a lot of guesses about what is going to happen next
  - c) Not look at any visuals (if any) because they might confuse me
  - d) Read the story aloud to someone
17. While I am reading, it's a good idea to:
- a) Try to answer the questions I asked myself
  - b) Try not to confuse what I already know with what I'm reading about
  - c) Read the story silently
  - d) Check to see if I'm saying the any new vocabulary correctly
18. While I am reading, it's a good idea to:
- a) Try to see if my guesses are going to be right or wrong
  - b) Reread to be sure I haven't missed any of the words
  - c) Decide on why I am reading the story
  - d) List what happened first, second, third, and so on
19. While I am reading, it's a good idea to:
- a) See if I can recognise any new vocabulary
  - b) Be careful not to skip any parts of the story
  - c) Check to see how many words I already know
  - d) Keep thinking of what I already know about the information and ideas in the story to help me decide what is going to happen
20. While I am reading, it's a good idea to:
- a) Reread some parts or read ahead to see if I can figure out what is happening if things aren't making sense
  - b) Take my time reading so that I can be sure I understand what is happening

- c) Change the ending so it makes sense
- d) Check to see if there are enough pictures to help make the ideas clear

**In each set of four, choose the one statement that describes the best thing to do in order to help you understand a book *after* you have read it.**

21. After I've read a book, it's a good idea to:
- a) Count how many pages I read
  - b) Check to see if there were enough visuals to make the book more interesting
  - c) Check to see if I met my purpose for reading the book
  - d) Underline the causes and effects
22. After I've read a book, it's a good idea to:
- a) Underline the main idea
  - b) Retell the main points of the whole story so that I can check to see if I understood it
  - c) Read the story again to be sure I said all of the words correctly
  - d) Practice reading the book aloud
23. After I've read a book, it's a good idea to:
- a) Read the title and look over the story to see what it is about
  - b) Check to see if I skipped any unfamiliar vocabulary
  - c) Think about what made me make good or bad predictions
  - d) Make a guess about what will happen next in the book
24. After I've read a book, it's a good idea to:
- a) Look up all of the unfamiliar words in a dictionary
  - b) Read the best parts aloud
  - c) Try to find the book on audio to listen again
  - d) Think about how accurate my predictions were of the story before I started to read it
25. After I've read a book, it's a good idea to:
- a) Think about how I would have acted if I were the main character
  - b) Practice reading the story silently to improve my reading skills
  - c) Look over the story title and images to see what will happen
  - d) Make a list of the things I understood the most

*Thank you for completing the survey, you may now return to the video lesson.*

*This survey has been adapted from Maribeth Cassidy Schmitt's study on the 'Metacomprehension Strategy Index' (1990).*

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