Jia Hang Zhou

Professor Leigh Gold

English 1121

21 February 2019

Reading Strategy

Reading and writing, what are they? Everyone has their own opinion or idea about what either reading or writing is. There are people who still can’t read or write in our society. What I think reading and writing is it goes under the same topic of understanding the language. Understanding the language is the most important part of what language you are using no matter whatever you’re reading or writing. If you understand the language, then it is easier to read and write. Of course, people learn from their own strategies to become better at reading and writing. It’s what the readers try to find a strategy that makes it easier for them. Strategies that I use to help me understand better is by annotating something that I read and if I fall upon something I don’t understand, I go online to do some research.

The strategy that I use to help me when I read something is by annotating. Most people annotate when they read. Annotating is a useful way to understand what you’re reading, and it helps when you need to go back and re-read the text if you forget. By writing notes on the side of the text helps if you forget what you have read and need to refresh your memory. If there are words you don’t understand, search their definitions and write them on the side. When I find the definition of the word, I also look up a synonym of the word. This helps me understand the sentence of a paragraph better if I were to re-read it by putting the synonym of the word. This idea changed my way of knowing more vocabulary words when I started reading articles in school because of how difficult some words are that can be simple to understand by looking up the synonym. I needed to improve my vocabulary, so I use this technique to help me learn a wide variety of new words when I read articles. As well as reading texts or any piece of writing throughout life if the same words came up. Not only that, if a synonym of a word of that type came up, I would now know what that word meant.

If a text or piece of writing is very long and takes time to read, I usually go online on the internet and find the article and see what others think about the reading. Sometimes whenever I read something long continuously, I just forget some of the important parts that I’ve read already (or maybe it’s just me). If going online doesn’t work, I put brackets on a whole paragraph or part that I don’t understand or are unsure of and continue to read the article. Afterwards, I go back and re-read paragraphs that I put brackets on slowly and break the paragraph down, so I can understand it bit by bit. If there are important quotes or ideas that I may think are important, I also put brackets on them so I can remember what the paragraph is about and know what the author is trying to say. Basically, my whole strategy is to break the whole article into paragraphs and understand the main ideas.

This strategy may be useful for some people if they still are having a hard time understanding what they are trying to read. Going online to see what others think about the article that you are reading helps to get a wider knowledge and to know what the author is trying to say, as well as what or how other readers think of the article in their own way. I like to first let other people say what they think about a certain topic or subject before I go and think about it myself because that way I can also use part of their ideas and further (deeper) think into it. I feel like this helps me in a way where I can start understanding what I’m trying to read or need more information about the text (like a deeper meaning of what the reader is trying to say in their writing).

In my experience, with reading and writing, I don’t seem to know if I am getting better and better at either of them. I think that it’s just part of life, reading and writing take place in most, yet all of the things we do in our lives. And getting better at reading and writing just helps communication feels easier and interact with people more to make them understand you better (to know what you are trying to say). When interacting with more people it increases your vocabulary use, same to reading. The more you read, the sharper your mind can get and language. People who read regularly are better writers than people who don’t usually read a lot.

There are people who know how to read but cannot write, and vice versa. I think that it’s just weaknesses that people have and are bad at it. When people write, they need to think a lot to be able for them to write something. While people read, they just read whatever is on the page. I believe reading and writing fall into the same category. Again, reading more can be useful for writing since reading is a way to help your knowledge grow so that you can write whats on your mind if you need to. I believe that if you can write, then you should also be able to read. Because for you to write, don’t people think what they need to write on their minds? Reading leads to using different styles and forms of writing.