

ENG925R

Reading Express



Objectives

Discuss active reading & vocabulary

Take Context Clues Test 1

Class Business

Grades & Office Hours

What happens after Reading Express?



- If you pass the class with an average of 70 or higher and earn reading proficiency (final grade S)
 - you will be able to take ENG1101 (with no CO) in the fall
- If you finish the class with an average of 60-69.9 and do not earn reading proficiency (final grade R)
 - you will be able to take ENG1101-CO in the fall
- If you finish the class with an average below 60 (final grade R).
 - City tech will not have a developmental reading class for you to take. The college has discontinued offering all developmental English classes. We would need to investigate what other options there may be for you outside of the college.

Review of Grading for Reading Express

Course Grading, Attendance, and Participation

Grading Breakdown

Attendance/Participation	10%
Homework	20%
Daily Tests	20%
Practice Final Exam	15%
Final Exam (CUNY RPE)	35%

Review of Attendance/Participation

Attendance in all ten classes is required. There are no excused absences. Two late arrivals/early departures will count as one absence. If you have a verifiable family emergency or technological issues that might cause an absence or late arrival, email me IMMEDIATELY and we'll talk about your situation after class.

Since this class is online, it will be run differently than an in-person class. To be considered present and a participant for this class, you must:

- be logged in to Zoom at the assigned times (if you aren't logged in within ten minutes you'll be considered late),
- have your cell phone turned off and put away,
- be in a private or semi-private space,
- wear earbuds if you are sharing your space with family members in order to minimize any noise, and
- use the audio **and** video applications on Zoom. No headshots, empty spaces, or pet pictures—I must see *you*! If you have personal or technological issues with this requirement, talk to me after class about it.
- If you need to use the bathroom or deal with a family member, please ask permission **first**. If you are gone ten minutes, you will be counted late. If you are gone for twenty minutes, you will be counted absent.

If you need to talk...

- I have office time today at 4 – 4:30 pm. Let me know via email if you want to talk or ask questions during this time. I can set up a meeting via Zoom.
- If that doesn't fit your schedule, email me and we can work out another time!

Reading Comprehension

Activity & Discussion

The Misery of Silence

- If you haven't emailed me your completed Homework, do so now!
- Now, I want you to choose two of the terms you found and type them into the message board with the explanation you came up with.
- We'll briefly discuss them as a class.
- Be sure to think about what works and what needs improvement.
- Let's talk about the Comprehension Questions!



Active Reading, Part 1

Activity & Discussion

What does “Active Reading” mean?

- Think and write for a few minutes about what you think it means.
- Share with the class what you’ve written or thought about!
- Active reading means that you don’t just passively read. Often we passively read what’s on our iPhones. We scroll, maybe click, but mostly scroll to see what’s next.
- When you actively read, you have a **goal**.
- We’re going to do an activity.
- If you don’t have a notebook handy—get it now!



Practice 1

Read the following passage. Answer the questions below.

The procedure is actually quite simple. First you arrange items into different groups. Of course, one pile may be sufficient depending on how much there is to do. If you have to go somewhere else due to lack of facilities that is the next step; otherwise, you are pretty well set. It is important not to overdo things. That is, it is better to do too few things at once than too many. In the short run this may not seem important, but complications can easily arise. A mistake can be expensive as well. At first, the whole procedure will seem complicated. Soon, however, it will become just another facet of life. It is difficult to foresee any end to the necessity for this task in the immediate future, but, then, one can never tell. After the procedure is completed, one arranges the materials into different groups again. Then they can be put into their appropriate places. Eventually they will be used once more, and the whole cycle will then have to be repeated. However, that is a part of life.

What process is described in this passage?

Where can you go if you lack the facilities?

How can a mistake be expensive?

What is the passage explaining?



Laundry!

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Review your answers and edit them if you need to:

What process is described in this passage?

Where can you go if you lack the facilities?

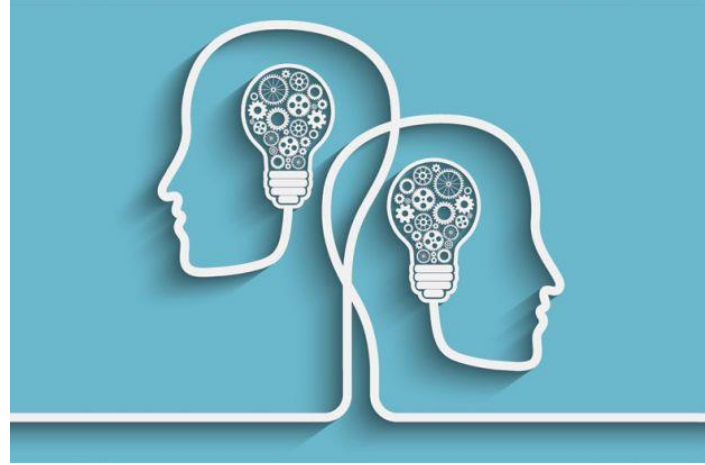
How can a mistake be expensive?

Now, write out your ideas on what this exercise might tell us about reading in general, what we have to do in order to comprehend a text.

What do you think?

- Did the passage sound different to you?
- Were you able to engage with it more actively and derive much more meaning from its sentences?
- Do the questions now seem trivial rather than mystifying?
- The Takeaway: *Previewing is important to comprehension.*

If students have some idea of or context for what they are about to read, their brains can recognize and process much more information than if they just dive headlong into their reading. (McGuire 47)



Vocabulary, Part 1

Discussion & Activity

Vocabulary in Context



- What do you usually do when you find a word you're unfamiliar with?
- What does the word "context" mean?
- Using context clues when you come across words you don't know does a few things:
 - Saves time when you're reading. (And definitely if you're taking an exam and the clock is ticking!)
 - After you figure out the meaning of the same word more than once through context, it may become a part of your regular vocabulary.
 - You will get a better sense of what the word means (and if there are different meanings) than if you just jump to a dictionary.

Vocabulary in Context



There are four common types of context clues. We're going to talk about two today and the other two tomorrow.

1. Examples (items that help define the unknown word)

The adverse effects of this drug, including dizziness, nausea, and headaches, have caused it to be withdrawn from the market.

What do you think the word **adverse** means, based on the examples of “dizziness, nausea, and headaches”?

Vocabulary in Context



Let's practice with examples! (Don't say the answer!)

Nocturnal creatures, such as bats and owls, have highly developed senses that enable them to function in the dark.

Nocturnal means

- a. Feathery
- b. Living
- c. Active at night

Vocabulary in Context



Let's practice with examples! (Don't say the answer!)

Instances of common euphemisms include “final resting place” (for grave), “intoxicated” (for drunk), and “restroom” (for toilet).

Euphemism means

- a. Unpleasant reactions
- b. Answers
- c. Substitute for offensive terms

Vocabulary in Context



2. Synonyms (a word that means the same or almost the same as the unknown word)

As soon as I made a flippant remark to my boss, I regretted sounding so disrespectful.

What do you think the word **flippant** means, based on the synonym “disrespectful”?

Vocabulary in Context



Let's practice with synonyms! (Don't say the answer!)

Fresh garlic may not enhance the breath, but it certainly does improve spaghetti sauce.

What is the synonym for enhance in this sentence?

Vocabulary in Context



Let's practice with synonyms! (Don't say the answer!)

Although the salesperson tried to assuage the angry customer, there was no way to soothe her.

What is the synonym for assuage in this sentence?

Homework

- **Complete** Context Clues Test 1. Email the test to me by 3:30 pm at readingexpressfysp@gmail.com.
- **Read** “Learning to Read” by Malcolm X and **answer** the Vocabulary & Comprehension Questions. Email the completed assignment to me by 1 pm on Wednesday.
- The reading can be found here:
<https://openlab.citytech.cuny.edu/groups/eng925r-fysp-reading-express-summer-2020/files/>



Context Clues Test 1

You have the remainder of this class to take the test. You must email it to me by 3:30 pm.