



Strategies For Improving Comprehension Skills Reading

Secondary School

Graphic Organizers

There are many different types of graphic organizers which you can find online or create, depending on the topic and listening (and reading) skills students need to practice. They are an effective tool for assessing comprehension as well as aids to memory.

Inference

Write up a sentence on the board with a fake word substituting one of the sentence's real, key words. Tell students they need to guess the meaning of the word and explain their interpretation. Then put students into pairs, and give them a text with 5-10 underlined fake words substituting real words in the text. For each fake word, students need to guess the meaning. After students guess, have a discussion in which students justify their interpretation with the text.

Matching

Choose a text and delete/cross out at least five of its sentences. Then write these sentences on the board in random order, and give the incomplete text to pairs of students, who collaborate to place the

sentences in their correct place within the text.

Scanning Race

Explain to students that you are going to do an activity to help them with their scanning skills. Give each student a copy of a text, and make sure they keep it facedown. Say one comprehension related to the text. Then have students flip over the text, and give them 10 seconds to search for the information. They should then put the text facedown again. Check how many students can answer the question. If no one can answer it, give them another 10 seconds with the same questions. Otherwise repeat the procedure with different questions.