

Predict:

I predict ...

- What does it **probably** mean? Use **what you already know** to help you predict what it means—most new things have something to do with what we already know.
- Have a **guess** at a meaning, **keep reading** and see if it **becomes clearer**.
- **Where** might the text help you further? Reading in school often uses the following sentences to help you understand more. **Check out the sentences that follow**.
- **Who is likely to know**—predict who could help, or where you might find more information. **Is there a diagram or a picture?** Look at the **title** or **subtitle** or **subheadings**. Those should help you begin to predict new information.
- Don't expect it to be a perfect prediction, it might be, but it might not. That's ok.
- Once you've predicted, **keep reading**.
- Still wondering? **Try another technique**.

Experience:



- Use **what you already know** to help you understand what it means—most new things have something to do with what we already know.
- What in the reading is the **same** as you already know? What in the reading is **similar** to what you already know? What is in the content that is different to what you already know?
- Chances are that when you use your experience, you will **begin to understand more**. You can always **check it** by reading on and see if it matches your experience.
- **Who is likely to know**—**who else's experience** could help?. Is it appropriate to ask them **now or later?**
- Don't expect the two experiences to be a perfect match to your experience, it might be, but it might not be. That's ok.
- Once you've used your experience, **keep reading**.
- Still wondering? **Try another technique**.

Visualise:



- When we visualise, we allow our minds to picture or see the things we are told about in the reading. We see the pictures in our heads.
 - Visualisation reading is like creating a film set in your head. Let the reading run in your head **like a movie**.
1. Make a film set in your head.
 2. Start the action.
 3. Keep adding details as you read them.
- Once you've used visualisation to get over the tricky bit, **keep reading**.
 - Still wondering? **Try another technique**.

If you already understand it:



If not, here's
Six Ways
To Improve
Your Understanding
of
What You Read

Question:



- You've already started the technique by noting you don't understand something and asking, ***What does that mean?***
- Often the rest of the text will help you answer the question so **just keep reading!**
- You can also ask: **Who? Where? When? How?** to **deepen and broaden your understanding** of a topic.
- Once you've used questioning to get over the tricky bit, **keep reading**.
- Still wondering? **Try another technique**.

Chunk:



- Chunking reading is like **breaking up** a big bar of chocolate into mouth-size chunks! **Blank space** on the page is as important as the words.
- Think **No Pressure!** Don't put pressure on yourself to understand everything all at once—no-one really reads like that in the same way that no-one puts the whole of a family-sized bar of chocolate in their mouth!
- Take it one chunk at a time—a **paragraph**, a **sentence**, a **part of a sentence**, a **title**, a **subheading**, a **word**.
- If the text is on the computer, you can easily **make the font bigger**, or **rewrite a section of the text**, **make each sentence a paragraph**, **highlight** or **underline** or **colour over key words**.
- **Key words** often come at the **end** or **beginning of sentences**. **Key ideas** often come at the **beginning or ends of paragraphs**. Use them to help you **shape the text differently**.
- Once you've used chunking, **keep reading**.
- Still wondering? **Try another technique**.

Vocabulary:



- To be honest, you can **ignore the odd word** here and there and not lose any of the meaning of the thing you are reading. Phew!
- These days, most of us carry a dictionary in our pockets—our **mobile phones** give us access to the internet—**look up that word**.
- Use a dictionary that gives you the meanings of words in **other words you actually understand**. Try kids.wordsmysths.net
- **Hunt about** in the text for a box or a list that is word bank or a glossary of key words and their meanings. Teachers often give you these. Or **look about the classroom** walls for key words.
- Read the rest of the words in the sentence. Do they help those tricky words make sense?
- With vocabulary, it is often best to just **keep reading**. Things usually become clear later without you having to do anything other than **just keep reading!**
- Still wondering? **Try another technique**.