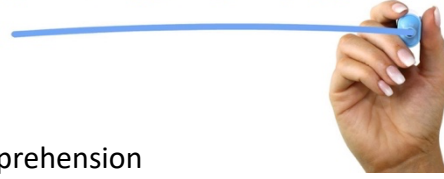# Reading Technique

PREDICT

Prediction
What someone thinks will happen

Why
- Helps readers improve their reading comprehension
- Connects readers to what they are reading
- Prepares readers for logical sequence of ideas

How
1. Prediction based on titles, subtitles, pictures, etc.
2. Prediction based on clues in previous sentence(s)
3. Prediction based on previous experience

Prediction Based on Titles
The purpose of a title is to let the reader know what's coming and what the text will be about.

Example
"Hidden Nutrients in Unexpected Places"

You would expect the article to talk about different foods and their nutritional values. You'd also expect to learn about the nutritional value of foods that are not obviously classified as "healthy," such as dark chocolate, which contains a lot of minerals such as magnesium, iron, and zinc. As a result of considering the title of the article, you might start considering your own food preferences in terms of nutrition, even before starting to read the article. Considering a title is a basic, initial step in active reading, as a clear title will help you think about a topic and relate it to your own experience, so that you start the process of conversing with the text.

Titles, skimming, & scanning. (n.d.). Lumen Learning – Simple Book Production. https://courses.lumenlearning.com/suny-esc-introtocollegereadingandwriting/chapter/skim/

Prediction Based on Subtitles
A major purpose of subtitles is to indicate major divisions or main points in a text.

Example
Title of Article: Shocking Hidden Sources of Carbs That You Won't Believe

Subtitles:
- Reduced-Fat Foods
- Liquid Eggs
- Condiments
- Yogurt
- Coleslaw

From the title, you would expect the article to discuss foods that most people consider to be healthy but aren't healthy. The subtitles let the reader know the five main points, which are five specific foods that contain carbohydrates.

Prediction Based on Pictures

 The purpose of pictures in articles is to convey the topic of an article without words. This is why we say, "A picture is worth a 1,000 words." Based on this picture, a reader might predict that the article might be about low-fat food.

Prediction Based on Clues in Sentence(s)

Since the bamboo plants on which the Giant Panda in its Chinese habitat depends for survival flower only once every 80 to 100 years, it is remarkable that the creature continues to exist.

Based on clues in the example, what can one predict will follow?

A. Something more about the survival of the Giant Panda
B. Something about other animals native to China

Answer: A

Clues: *Since the bamboo plants on which the Giant Panda in its Chinese habitat depends for* **survival** *flower only once every 80 to 100 years, it is remarkable that the creature* **continues to exist***.*

Prediction Based on Past Experience

Before reading, readers may use what they know about an author to predict what a text will be about. Also, the title of a text may trigger memories of texts, films, etc. with similar content, allowing readers to predict the content of the new text.

Example

Title: Robert Hansen: The FBI Agent Who Worked for the FBI

A reader may have read the article "How Spies Are Caught." The title "Robert Hansen: The FBI Agent Who Worked for the FBI" may trigger memories of how spies are caught, so the reader will predict that the Hansen article will reveal which one of the four ways spies are caught applies to Hansen.