



## **STUDY SKILLS for READING**

Read a VARIETY of texts as often as you can.  
These could be:

### **Graded Readers:**

- From Beginner to Advanced Level novels, short stories, general interest:
- Detective, Thrillers, Sci-Fi, Romance, Humour..... Read two chapters a day!

### **Newspapers:**

- Local (Cambridge Evening News); Tabloid (The Sun, the Daily Mail); Broadsheet (The Guardian, The Times, The Independent)
- Other daily papers: Metro (you can pick this up at Cambridge, London and local stations)

### **Magazines:**

- The International Student Magazine – and you can get your writing published in here – for information see the Studio Online Club: [www.learningwithstudio.co.uk](http://www.learningwithstudio.co.uk)
- Look at the suggested magazine websites for Sport, Science, Politics, Fashion, Society.....

### **Be Observant and Curious!**

- While you are in Cambridge, shopping, hanging out with friends, read what you see around you:
- Advertising or promotional posters and leaflets, timetables, public signs and notices, traffic signs, historical information on buildings.
- These are all useful ways to extend your vocabulary!

### **THREE READING SKILLS to PRACTISE:**

1. Reading for Gist:
  - Read a short article or paragraph from a newspaper or magazine without using a dictionary. See if you can sum up the main points. Then look up a few words you don't know. Record those words in your vocabulary book – check their pronunciation!
2. Researching different topics:
  - Make a lists of different things to find out, e.g: How to get somewhere (train/coach times? Route? Ticket prices? hotels/hostels? ); definitions of words and phrases; cultural & historical information about Britain.
  - USE different Internet resources – do you think some website information is more reliable than others?
3. Prediction
  - Predict content from pictures, titles/headings. Ask yourself questions: *Who? What? Where? Why? When?*

## Useful Websites for Reading

For all kinds of reading practice:

### **ESL Monkeys**

<http://www.eslmonkeys.com/student/storyroom/storyroom.html>

### **ESL/EFL Teaching/Learning Resources**

A general resource with many fantastic websites for you to try:

[http://academics.smcvt.edu/cbauer-ramazani/Links/esl\\_reading.htm](http://academics.smcvt.edu/cbauer-ramazani/Links/esl_reading.htm)

Simple English News [www.esl.about.com/](http://www.esl.about.com/)

Easy English Times <http://www.easyenglishtimes.com/>

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/>

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/worldservice/learningenglish>

ESL PartyLand (Learners site)- lots of useful activities for practising social English

<http://www.eslpartyland.com/dating/advice.htm>

### **Magazines:**

**Discover Magazine** <<http://www.discover.com>>

**Environmental News Network (ENN)** <<http://www.enn.com/>>

**Space Science News** <<http://spacescience.com/default.htm>>

**Air & Space** <<http://www.airspacemag.com/>>

**National Geographic News** <http://news.nationalgeographic.com/>

**Scientific American** <http://www.sciam.com>

**Time Magazine** <http://www.time.com/time/> -- 4 free trial issues

**Wired News** <http://www.wired.com/> and **Wired Magazine** <http://www.wired.com/wired/>  
-- has articles on culture, technology, politics

**Fashion magazines** -- has links to many online magazines for:

**Women** -- [http://dmoz.org/Arts/Design/Fashion/Magazines\\_and\\_E-zines/Women/](http://dmoz.org/Arts/Design/Fashion/Magazines_and_E-zines/Women/)

**Men** -- [http://dmoz.org/Arts/Design/Fashion/Magazines\\_and\\_E-zines/Men/](http://dmoz.org/Arts/Design/Fashion/Magazines_and_E-zines/Men/)

