

# How to get the most out of your readings

Participant guide

## Session description and outcomes

Are you looking to better understand and analyze your academic readings? In this session, we will explore strategies to enhance your reading comprehension, retention, and critical analysis skills. Learn how to decipher complex texts, identify key concepts, and focus while reading in a digital environment. Whether you're a seasoned student or new to university-level reading, this workshop will equip you with practical techniques to excel in your studies and make the most of your academic journey. Unlock the power of reading and elevate your learning experience with us!

By the end of this session, you will have had a chance to:

- Identify tips and techniques for more engaged reading
- Apply active reading strategies to digital and physical reading environments

## Activities

This workshop will involve opportunities to reflect upon your experiences with reading at university, share personal experiences with the group via the chat (online) or with a partner (in-person), poll questions, and individual practice of the reading strategies presented.

## Working definitions

**SQ4R** is a strategy that stands for Survey, Question, Read, Record, Recite, Review.

## Your next steps

Following the session, reflect on the following questions:

- What is one active reading strategy you will implement this term to support your learning?
- How will you know if the strategy is working for you?

## Land acknowledgment

McGill is located on the unceded Indigenous lands of the Kanien'kehá:ka Nation, known as Tiohtià:ke/Montreal. The Kanien'kehá:ka, also known as the Keepers of the Eastern Door, are one of the nations that make up the Haudenosaunee Confederacy on Turtle Island/North America. Our presence on this land contributes to the dispossession and ongoing oppression of Indigenous peoples. Our goal is to promote learning and generate allyship with local Indigenous communities, by honouring and respecting the many nations removed from, as well as those still connected to this land. Throughout the workshop we encourage you to consider active reading strategies that best support your learning about the indigenous communities in Montreal. Consult [Native Land](#), McGill Indigenous Initiatives' [The Land and Peoples](#), and [Indigenous Education Resources](#) to learn more.

## Resources

Consult the [learning resources](#) created by Teaching and Learning Services, particularly these resources on [reading strategies](#).

Visit [Self-Directed Learning Guides](#) from Student Accessibility & Achievement.

Explore [learning technologies](#) available to you.

For dense pdf readings, try [Optical Character Recognition](#).

## References

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## Contact information

For any questions about the workshop material or other related information, visit [mcgill.ca/tls/students](http://mcgill.ca/tls/students) or email [learning.tls@mcgill.ca](mailto:learning.tls@mcgill.ca).