**Strategic Reading**

**What strategic reading is NOT:**

Strategic reading is not just 1 the words. D-O-G spells dog

Strategic reading is not just about 2 (understanding) the main point.

Strategic reading is not just 3 the key details.

Strategic reading is not just about 4 through a reading to answer worksheet questions.

**Definition of strategic reading:**

Strategic reading is about getting the 5 of the reading so that you can 6 it to DO something.

**Four Steps to strategic reading:**

Step 1: I 7

Step 2: D 8

Step 3: E 9

Step 4: A 10

**You can do these 4 steps if you adopt two habits of highly successful strategic readers**

1. 11
2. 12

**Identify the Purpose:**

Every author worth your time reading had a reason to write. Authors write because they have something to say. This is the reason they put pen to paper. You don’t think this is true because most, if not all, of your writing is enforced assignments about topics you that you don’t choose to find a way to care about. As a result, much of your writing has at best the purpose of ‘getting an A’ and at worst the purpose of just taking up space on a page.

Why does a reading exist?

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Real authors wish to bring new ideas to light, to communicate information, to convey an insight about the human condition, to teach, to persuade, to satirize, or just to make light. Real authors write with a purpose and it is your job as a real reader to identify the purpose of a reading.

The purpose of a reading is 14

But motives are tricky things. They come from deep within us and are shaped by who we are and the situation in which we find ourselves. Therefore good strategic readers find out about the 15 before they try to figure out the author’s purpose.

**To do this you need to identify three things: GAS**

1. **G** 16.

You are used to the existence of different genres of music. The genre of music determines how you dance to it. The genre of a document determines how you 17. Knowing that Thomas Paine’s *Common Sense* is a satire lets you understand that his purpose is to reject British colonial rule not to give advice on how best to eat babies. You read a textbook differently than you read a poem.

1. **A** 18.   
   We all speak to different groups of people in different ways. I don’t talk to you like I do to my boss, my wife, my kids or my dog. You would explain a bad report card very differently to a parent than you would a peer. Knowing the audience
2. **S 19**.

It is much more than just the author’s name, especially when you don’t know anything about the author! Remember, you aren’t just doing this to fill in boxes. Don’t think the source matters? Think about texting with friends? Does the author of the text matter? Does it matter how quickly someone gets back to your text? Does a text about something private between the two of you matter if someone takes a screen shot and posts it to their public Instagram account?

**Step 2:** Demonstrate Comprehension by identifying the main point and supporting evidence.

**Step 4**

Apply the reading

**Step 1:** Identify Genre, Audience and Source

*Complete Step 1 at the end*

*by identifying the purpose.*

**Step 3**

Exhibit critical insights.

Do these three things (GAS) and then complete the rest of your strategic reading steps. Only then should you finally come back to where you started and try to finally comment on the author's purpose.