

NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC LEARNING THIRD EDITION

SKILLS FOR READING INTRO

Neil J Anderson

What Is ACTIVE Reading?

ACTIVE reading is an approach to reading, advocated by Neil J Anderson, that focuses on the following elements:

A = Activate Prior Knowledge

- Activation of background knowledge improves reading comprehension.
- *Getting Ready* and *Before You Read* sections elicit learners' prior knowledge, and generate interest in the topic, through use of visual prompts and questions.

C = Cultivate Vocabulary

- Vocabulary plays a crucial role in the development of reading ability.
- *Vocabulary Comprehension* sections in each unit examine vocabulary items encountered in the main reading passage.
- *Vocabulary Skill* sections provide learners with explicit skills-based instruction in how to learn, process, and decipher new vocabulary.

T = Think About Meaning

- In addition to testing for comprehension, the ACTIVE approach encourages learners to think deeply about the meaning of the text.
- Check Your Understanding questions focus learners on the main ideas and key details of the text.
- *Critical Thinking* questions require learners to go beyond reading comprehension to analyze each text and the author's intent.

I = Increase Reading Fluency

- Conscious development of reading rate and comprehension are key ingredients in building reading fluency.
- Tips for Fluent Reading (pages 8 and 9) encourage learners to become more aware of their own reading habits.
- Four *Review Units* reinforce learners' use of strategies and provide additional reading fluency practice.

V = Verify Strategies

- Learners are encouraged to be aware of what they are doing and why they are doing it, as they read.
- Reading strategies are presented in the *Reading Skill* sections, the *Vocabulary Skill* sections, and the *Real Life Skill* section in each unit.
- *Self Check* sections in each Review Unit require learners to monitor the effectiveness of their own use of strategies.

E = Evaluate Progress

- Both qualitative and quantitative evaluation of learners' progress is advocated.
- The *Reading Rate Chart* and the *Reading Comprehension Chart* allow learners to plot their achievements in building reading fluency.
- *What Do You Think?* sections provide opportunities for learners to show comprehension of the unit theme, through verbal or written discussion.

For more information on his ACTIVE reading methodology, see Neil J Anderson's professional title *Exploring Second Language Reading: Issues and Strategies*, part of National Geographic Learning's TeacherSource series (ISBN: 0-8384-6685-0) as well as his online professional development course, *ELT Advantage: Teaching ESL/EFL Reading*.



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This book is dedicated to the students and teachers who have used ACTIVE Skills for Reading over the past 10 years. Since 2002/2003 when the first edition of ACTIVE Skills for Reading was published, thousands of students and teachers have used the book. I know that I had no idea that the series would be this popular and that we would reach the stage of publishing a third edition.

The pedagogical framework for this series is as viable today as it has ever been. As students and teachers use each of the elements of *ACTIVE*, stronger reading will result.

My associations with the editorial team in Singapore continue to be some of my greatest professional relationships. I express appreciation to Sean Bermingham, Derek Mackrell, and Andrew Robinson for their commitment to excellence in publishing. I also express appreciation to Jenny Wilsen and John Murn for their commitment to helping the third edition be stronger than the two previous editions.

Neil J Anderson

Reviewers for this edition ____

Mardelle Azimi; Jose Carmona Hillsborough Community College; Grace Chao Soochow University; Mei-Rong Alice Chen National Taiwan University of Science and Technology; Irene Dryden; Jennifer Farnell Greenwich Japanese School; Kathy Flynn Glendale Community College; Sandy Hartmann University of Houston; Joselle L. LaGuerre; Margaret V. Layton; Myra M. Medina Miami Dade College; Masumi Narita Tokyo International University; Margaret Shippey Miami Dade College; Satoshi Shiraki; Karen Shock Savannah College of Art and Design; Sandrine Ting; Colin S. Ward Lonestar College; Virginia West Texas A&M University; James B. Wilson; Ming-Nuan Yang Chang Gung Institute of Technology; Jakchai Yimngam Rajamangala University of Technology

Reviewers of the second edition _

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Vocabulary Learning Tips

Learning new vocabulary is an important part of learning to be a good reader. Remember that the letter C in **ACTIVE Skills for Reading** reminds us to cultivate vocabulary.

1 Decide if the word is worth learning now

As you read you will find many words you do not know. You will slow your reading fluency if you stop at every new word. For example, you should stop to find out the meaning of a new word if:

- a. you read the same word many times.
- **b.** the word appears in the heading of a passage, or in the topic sentence of a paragraph—the sentence that gives the main idea of the paragraph.

2 Record information about new words you decide to learn

Keep a vocabulary notebook in which you write words you want to remember. Complete the following information for words that you think are important to learn:

0	New word	collect
0	Translation	収集
0	Part of speech	verb
0	Sentence where found	Jamie Oliver collected more than 270,000 signatures from people.
0	My own sentence	My brother collects stamps.

3 Learn words from the same family

For many important words in English that you will want to learn, the word is part of a word family. As you learn new words, learn words in the family from other parts of speech (nouns, verbs, adjectives, adverbs, etc.).

Noun	happiness	
Verb		
Adjective Adverb	happy	
Adverb	happy happily	

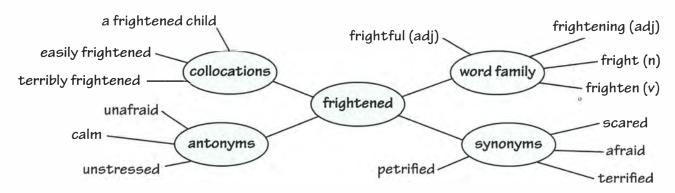
4 Learn words that go with the key word you are learning

When we learn new words, it is important to learn what other words are frequently used with them. These are called collocations. Here is an example from a student's notebook.

0			long		
U	take		two-week		next week
0	go on	a	short	vacation	in Italy
0	need		summer		with my family
0	have		school		by myself

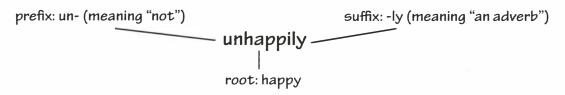
5 Create a word web

A word web is a picture that helps you connect words together and helps you increase your vocabulary. Here is a word web for the word "frightened":



6 Memorize common prefixes, roots, and suffixes

Many English words can be divided into different parts. We call these parts *prefixes*, *roots*, and *suffixes*. A *prefix* comes at the beginning of a word, a *suffix* comes at the end of a word, and the *root* is the main part of the word. In your vocabulary notebook, make a list of prefixes and suffixes as you come across them. On page 175 there is a list of prefixes and suffixes in this book. For example, look at the word "unhappily."

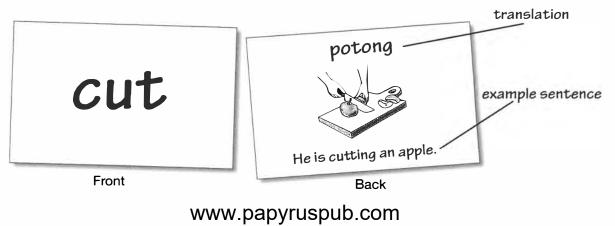


7 Regularly review your vocabulary notebook

You should review the words in your vocabulary notebook very often. The more often you review your list of new words, the sooner you will be able to recognize the words when you see them during reading. Set up a schedule to go over the words you are learning.

8 Make vocabulary flash cards

Flash cards are easy to make, and you can carry them everywhere with you. You can use them to study while you are waiting for the bus, walking to school or work, or eating a meal. You can use the flash cards with your friends to quiz each other. Here is an example of a flash card:



7

Tips for Fluent Www.papyruspub.com



Find time to read every day.

Find the best time of day for you to read. Try to read when you are not tired. By reading every day, even for a short period, you will become a more fluent reader.

Look for a good place to read.

It is easier to read and study if you are comfortable. Make sure that there is good lighting in your reading area and that you are sitting in a comfortable chair. To make it easier to concentrate, try to read in a place where you won't be interrupted.

Use clues in the text to make predictions.

Fluent readers make predictions before and as they read. Use the title, subtitle, pictures, and captions to ask yourself questions about what you are going to read. Find answers to the questions when you read. After reading, think about what you have learned and decide what you need to read next to continue learning.

Establish goals before you read.

Before you read a text, think about the purpose of your reading. For example, do you just want to get a general idea of the passage? Or do you need to find specific information? Thinking about what you want to get from the reading will help you decide what reading skills you need to use.

Notice how your eyes and head are moving.

Good readers use their eyes, and not their heads, when they read. Moving your head back and forth when reading will make you tired. Practice avoiding head movements by placing your elbows on the table and resting your head in your hands. Do you feel movement as you read? If you do, hold your head still as you read. Also, try not to move your eyes back over a text. You should reread part of a text only when you have a specific purpose for rereading, for example, to make a connection between what you read previously and what you are reading now.

Try not to translate.

Translation slows down your reading. Instead of translating new words into your first language, first try to guess the meaning. Use the context (the other words around the new word) and word parts (prefixes, suffixes, and word roots) to help you guess the meaning.





Read in phrases rather than word by word.

Don't point at each word while you read. Practice reading in phrases—groups of words that go together.

Engage your imagination.

Good readers visualize what they are reading. They create a movie in their head of the story they are reading. As you read, try sharing with a partner the kinds of pictures that you create in your mind.

Avoid subvocalization.

Subvocalization means quietly saying the words as you read. You might be whispering the words or just silently saying them in your mind. Your eyes and brain can read much faster than you can speak. If you subvocalize, you can only read as fast as you can say the words. As you read, place your finger on your lips or your throat. Do you feel movement? If so, you are subvocalizing. Practice reading without moving your lips.

Don't worry about understanding every word.

Sometimes, as readers, we think we must understand the meaning of everything that we read. It isn't always necessary to understand every word in a passage in order to understand the meaning of the passage as a whole. Instead of interrupting your reading to find the meaning of a new word, circle the word and come back to it after you have finished reading.

Enjoy your reading.

Your enjoyment of reading will develop over time. Perhaps today you do not like to read in English, but as you read more, you should see a change in your attitude. The more you read in English, the easier it will become. You will find yourself looking forward to reading.

Read as much as you can.

The best tip to follow to become a more fluent reader is to read whenever and wherever you can. Good readers read a lot. They read many different kinds of material: newspapers, magazines, textbooks, websites, and graded readers. To practice this, keep a reading journal. Every day, make a list of the kinds of things you read during the day and how long you read each for. If you want to become a more fluent reader, read more!



Are You an ACTIVE Reader?

Before you use this book to develop your reading skills, think about your reading habits, and your strengths and weaknesses when reading in English. Check the statements that are true for you.

		Start of course	End of course
1	I read something in English every day.		
2	I try to read where I'm comfortable and won't be interrupted.		
3	I make predictions about what I'm going to read before I start reading.		
4	I think about my purpose of reading before I start reading.		
5	I keep my head still, and move only my eyes, when I read.		
6	I try not to translate words from English to my first language.		
7	I read in phrases rather than word by word.		
8	I try to picture in my mind what I'm reading.		
9	I read silently, without moving my lips.		
10	I try to understand the meaning of the passage, and try not to worry about understanding the meaning of every word.		
11	I usually enjoy reading in English.		
12	I try to read as much as I can, especially outside class.		

Follow the tips on pages 8–9. These will help you become a more active reader. At the end of the course, answer this quiz again to see if you have become a more fluent, active reader.

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Getting Ready

- A Match the words in the box with the pictures above.
- d. a website a. a computer
- c. an e-reader
- b. a video game e. a cell phone

- **B** Answer these questions. Circle yes or no. Discuss your answers with a partner. 1 I have a computer. Yes No No 2 I have my own website or blog. Yes 3 I read books on an e-reader. Yes No Yes No 4 I spend a lot of time online. No 5 I read books on my cell phone. Yes No 6 I text message my friends. Yes No
 - 7 I like to play video or computer games. Yes
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UNIT 1

Before You Read

My Friends

Think about answers to these questions.

- 1 What **social networks** (e.g. *Facebook*) do you use? How many online friends do you have?
- 2 How often do you meet your friends? What do you do?

CHAPTER 1 Meeting Friends Online

- **B** Discuss your answers with a partner.
- A Look at the website on the next page for five seconds. Then read the sentences in the chart below. Do you think the answers are true or false? Check (/) true (T) or false (F).

		Т	F
1	On Face2Face, I can meet my friends online.		
2	On Face2Face, I can talk about movies.		
3	On Face2Face, I can telephone my friends.		
4	On Face2Face, I can make music videos.		

- 3 Scan the passage on the next page. Were your answers in A correct?
- C Read the website on the next page. Then answer the questions on page 14.

Reading helps you in the world. Being a good reader in both your first language and in English is useful to you and your community. You will benefit as a citizen of the world as you read more about events happening in different parts of the world. Your knowledge of the world can help you as a citizen of the community you live in.



Reading Skill

Scanning

You *scan* to find information fast. You don't read every word. People often scan a website, a schedule, or a phone book for specific information.



¹ A **hobby** is an activity you do in your free time.

² A **preview** is a short part of a movie you watch before the movie starts in cinemas.

Reading Comprehension

Check Your Understanding

- A Choose the correct answers.
 - 1 How many people use Face2Face?
 - a four hundred
 - **b** two thousand
 - c six million
 - 2 What CAN'T you do on Face2Face?
 - a make your own video
 - **b** join a discussion group
 - c make a homepage
 - 3 What is a blog?
 - a a place to write your thoughts
 - **b** a website with video games
 - c a place to make new friends
 - 4 On Face2Face, you can play games ______
 - a alone
 - b with Face2Face members
 - c both alone and with other members
- B At the top of the Face2Face website, there are eight words (Home, My Page, etc.). Read the sentences below. Which word(s) do you click? Write your answer(s).

			Word(s) to Click
	1	Lady Gaga has a new CD. I want to hear her new song.	Music
	2	I want to change my personal information.	
	3	I want to read about other people using Face2Face.	
	4	I plan to visit Greece this summer. I want ideas about things to do.	
С	1 2	Do you like the Face2Face website? Why? Do you know other websites like Face2Face?	

A In each sentence, circle the best answer. The words in blue are from the passage.

- **1** Pedro: "This is a photo of my girlfriend."
 - Liz: "What a nice (drawing / picture)!"
- 2 I really (like / hate) green. It's my favorite color.
- 3 You can make friends (in a book / on the Internet).
- 4 In our discussion group, we (talk / read) about different topics.
- 5 To (send / leave) your text message to Mario, press this button.
- 6 Tina calls John. John isn't home. She hears his answering machine: "Hi, this is John. I'm not home. Please (send a message / leave a message) after the beep."



Vocabulary Comprehension

Words in Context

- Fumiko: "You live in a very beautiful area."
 José: "Yes, I do. My (city / house) is on many postcards."
- 8 I want to buy a DVD, but I don't have any (money / friends).

B Answer the questions below. Discuss your answers with a partner.

- 1 You can make friends in a club. What is another way?
- 2 Do you send emails or text messages to your friends? How often?
- 3 Do you ever buy things online?
- 4 Do you think you live in a beautiful area? Why or why not?

A Is each noun singular or plural? Check (1/2) the correct answer.

	Noun	singular	plural
1	blog		
2	hobbies		
3	homepage		
4	message		
5	videos		
6	game		
7	movies		
8	members		
9	actor		
10	stories		

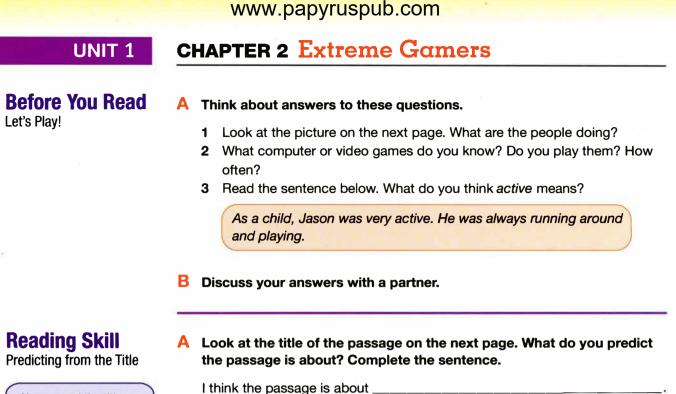


Singular and Plural Nouns

Singular means one. Plural means more than one. Plural nouns usually end in -s or -es. For example, cat is singular. Cats is plural.

B Complete each sentence with a noun from **A**. Use the correct singular or plural form.

- 1 Johnny Depp is my favorite _____. I have all his _____ on DVD.
- 2 There are two ______ on your answering machine.
- 3 My brother often plays computer _____ with friends.
- 4 Every day I write on my _____. That way my friends know what I've been doing.
- 5 Alan is a(n) ______ of a local gym. He exercises a lot.



Always read the title first. From the title, you can predict (guess) the passage's ideas.

B Read the whole passage. Then check your answer in **A**. Were you

correct?

C Read the passage again. Then answer the questions on page 18.

ACTIVE Gaming

On Friday, David went home from college to visit his family. In the living room, David's 14-year-old brother, Jason, was in front of the 5 television. Jason looked **crazy**,

jumping around and talking to himself.

"What are you doing?" David asked.

10 "I'm playing Dance Central," Jason said. "Want to try?"

There was no controller.¹ Jason told his brother to stand in front of the television. Then Jason

said that the machine could see and hear them. The machine was also connected to the television. If they wanted to, the brothers could tell the machine to turn off the game so they
can watch TV.

David was ready to play! Jason pointed

his finger at the screen and started a two-player music game. In the

25 game they were rock musicians, playing guitars and dancing. Playing the game made David feel **tired**. He had to move his arms, legs, hands, and feet to play the game. Being so active, David felt **like** he was actually in the game, not just controlling it.

It was **terrific**! Before they knew it, they had played **nonstop** for two hours.

Someone once said that technology can seem like magic. Standing in front of the television, David certainly felt like a magician.²



² A magician is someone who does magic.

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Reading Comprehension

Check Your Understanding

- A Choose the correct answers.
 - 1 What was Jason doing at home?
 - a He was exercising.
 - **b** He was watching television.
 - c He was dancing.
 - 2 Why did David feel tired?
 - a He did not get enough sleep last night.
 - b He had to move around a lot.
 - c He played the game for too long.
 - 3 In line 34, the word nonstop means _____
 - a stopping often
 - **b** without stopping
 - c for one hour
 - 4 What is special about the video game in this passage?
 - a Players do not use controllers.
 - **b** The players learn to play music.
 - **c** The game is played online.

B Put the events below in order from 1 to 6.

- a ____ David felt tired.
- **b** _____ David came home from college.
- **c** _____ Jason pointed his finger at the screen.
- **d** _____ David felt like a magician.

d

- e ____ David saw Jason jumping around.
- f _____ David and Jason played the game.



- **C** 1 Are video games without controllers better than video games with controllers? Why?
 - 2 Do you want to play the video game in the passage? Why?

Vocabulary Comprehension

Definitions

A Match each word with its definition. The words in blue are from the passage.

like -----

2 crazy

1

- a sleepy
- **b** for example: a car, a television
- c very good

d similar to

e strange

f together

g to stop using

- 3 machine _____ connected ____ 4
- 5 turn off
- 6 rock
- 7 terrific
- 8 tired h a kind of loud music

B Answer the questions below. Discuss your answers with a partner.

- 1 How many different kinds of machine can you name?
- 2 What time do you turn off the lights and go to sleep?
- 3 What makes you tired?
- 4 Do you look like your mother or your father? How?

A Add -er or -r to each verb to create a new noun.

- Verb Noun dance 1 2 surf 3 write 4 desian _____ 5 paint 6 play 7 read 8 speak 9 listen
- 10 sing _____

B Use nouns from **A** to complete the sentences.

- 1 Tommy Hilfiger is a famous clothing <u>designer</u>
- 2 Marco is a ______. He goes to the beach almost every day.
- 3 Mia talks too much. She needs to be a better _____
- 4 Picasso and Monet are famous _____
- 5 Wei Ping is a good ______ . Have you read any of her stories?
- C Do you know other words like the ones in A? Make a list. Compare your list with a partner's.

Review your performance. Review your answers to all of the reading comprehension and vocabulary comprehension exercises in this unit. If you got any of the items incorrect, why do you think you did?

Vocabulary Skill

Adding *-er* or *-r* to Make New Words

> In English, we can add -er to verbs to make nouns. For example, play + er =player. If the noun or verb ends in e, we only add an r. For example, game + r = gamer.

Real Life Skill

Starting a Blog in English

You can use a blog to practice reading and writing in English.

A Carlos has a blog. Read his profile. Then complete your profile.

Carlos's	Profile	Your Profile		
First name: Carlos		First name:		
Last name:	Alvarez	Last name:		
Email addres	ss: g.heinle.com	Email address:		
User name: <u>CarlosA</u>		User name:		
Birthday:	June 23, 1989	Birthday:		
Gender:	X Male Female	Gender: 🗌 Male 🗌 Female		
City:	Valencia	City:		
Country:	Spain	Country:		
Name of my	blog:	Name of my blog:		
What's up, (Carlito?			

B Go to one of the websites below. Click on create a blog. Use your information from A to start a blog in English.

www.blogger.com www.wo

www.wordpress.com

C After you create your blog, follow the steps below.

- 1 In your blog, write in English about your favorite computer or video game.
- 2 Give your writing a title.
- 3 When you finish writing, click *publish* or *post*.
- 4 Write a short email to your friends to tell them about your post.

What do you think?

- 1 Do you use your computer a lot? How often?
- 2 Today, there are many popular websites for meeting people (for friendship or love). Is meeting people online a good idea? Why?

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ACTIVE Reading

- A = Activate Prior Knowledge
- C = Cultivate Vocabulary
- T = Think About Meaning
- Increase
 Reading Fluency
- V = Verify Strategies
- E = Evaluate Progress

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