

7. Become culturally literate.

- a. Gather background information.
- b. Understand allusions.
- c. Become an educated reading audience.

8. Develop an adequate vocabulary.

- a. Try to figure out a word from context, rather than skipping over it.
- b. Make it a habit to look up words.
- c. Keep a vocabulary list, complete with new words and their meanings.

9. Learn to track complex syntax.

- a. Chunk complex grammatical units.
- b. Isolate main clauses.
- c. Understand the difference between main clauses and embedded subordinate clauses and phrases.

10. Note the varieties of academic discourse.

- a. Prose styles, discourse structures, and argumentative strategies differ from discipline to discipline or from historical period to historical period. (That is, some writers labor to make themselves clear through highly mapped, thesis-up-front structures while others seem to seek obscurity through a difficult style and complex, organic organization. Others have exploratory, digressive, process-oriented styles, while some are highly metaphorical, and still others are allusive.)
- b. Adjust your reading strategy to the differences in genre. (That is, scientists often read carefully the introduction and discussion sections of scientific reports but skip the methodology section and only skim the findings.)