

Course 1.1. EPC-1

Unit - 2

Reading Skills

● Levels of Reading:-

Reading is a long term process.

A conscious reader through execution can achieve unique skill as reader.

Reading of one level is different in output with others. One level of reading may produce one unique meaning. So, variety in the level of reading rewards various meaning & can generate distinguished emotion. This entire process can be termed as Level of Reading.

Good readers operate cognitively at four highly interrelated and overlapping

levels of meaning:

- i) the literal
- ii) the interpretative
- iii) the critical &
- iv) the creative.

Literal Reading:

Literal comprehension refers to 'reading the lines', reading in order to understand, remember, or recall the information explicitly contained in a text. So literal reading means understanding the information stated directly in a text. The reader does not have to dig too deeply to get it. Literal reading implies a popular reading habit where reader intends to understand the literal meaning of the text. It never aims to dig the text deep to explore the inner meaning of the text. Reader only comes across the landmarks in the text, like word, sentence, description etc. Reader only intends to build a meaning on the facade.

Interpretative Reading:

To read at the interpretative level, is to read 'between the lines', to recognize ideas and information not directly stated. Interpretative reading is second level of reading in terms of its critical circumference. With previous knowledge reader aims to go beyond the horizon of literal meaning. Experience and previous knowledge help the reader to explore undisclosed horizons of new meaning of the text. In interpretative reading, it is expected the reader must be learned & wise enough. Reader is curious enough to know deep aspect of the text. Interpretative reading also involves getting out meanings expressed through literary allusions, archaic words, idiomatic expressions and figures of speech like simile, metaphor, irony, etc.

• Critical Reading:

Critical reading requires making judgements with regard to a text. The reader may judge the accuracy of facts, the validity of conclusions drawn, or the effectiveness of the author's style. Critical reading also requires giving reasons for the judgement & stating the criteria used in making it, commenting on the views expressed in the passage & the appropriateness & effectiveness of the treatment of those ideas. While a reader hunts for explanation, he/she might have the following ideas in mind -

- ⇒ Identification of the purpose of the author
- ⇒ Deeper realization of the main theme.
- ⇒ Look for the reason of the narrated story.
- ⇒ Origin of the event and kind of the event are to be comprehended.
- ⇒ Point out the uniformity of the language.
- ⇒ Realize the writing style of the text.

• Creative Reading:

Creative reading calls for the generation of new ideas, insights, applications and approaches. It requires invention, prediction and use of the imagination. Proposing an alternative conclusion or generalization based on reading the text and suggesting related examples are exercises in creative reading. Creative reading uses divergent thinking skills to go beyond the literal comprehension level and move on to the interpretational and critical reading levels. Creative reading does not allow the reader to achieve deeper level of knowledge. Creative thinking gets the top most preferences. Creative reading licenses liberty of behaviour which generates new situations with newer knowledge. Reader enjoys ample chance to exercise his/her original ideas. Creative reading amuses two things -

- ⇒ It keeps the curiosity of the reader static.
- ⇒ Reader gets chances to experiment with original ideas. Creative reading may amuse the accumulation of new knowledge, but it opens the change for new discourse of renewed curiosity.

● Intensive Reading:

Prof. Brown has defined as the following -

"Intensive Reading is a reading in detail with specific aims & tasks."

Intensive reading covers a wide range of information & texts. Intensive reading affirms some certain purposes which are presupposed. The proper conduction of intensive reading largely counts on the deeper study of word, meaning and grammar. Intensive reading means, the full understanding of the text with all its arguments, its symbolic, emotional & social overtones, the attitude & purposes of the author & the linguistic and literary means the author employs to achieve his purpose. Thus intensive reading is a process of reading which involves several other skills including skimming and scanning.

⇒ Purpose of Intensive Reading:-

1. Intensive Reading habit may serve specific goal.
2. The goal of Intensive Reading is pre-determined.
3. It has specific goal.
4. Intensive Reading is effective for smaller text.
5. It is never performed outside syllabus.
6. To reach the goal in Intensive Reading word, meaning and grammar are deeply and analytically studied.
7. It prepares the reader to acquire the structured knowledge of the text.
8. It always improves the reading skill of a reader.
9. Classroom usually distributes or assigns the area for Intensive Reading.

- 10) Readers are kept seriously involved during the continuation of Intensive Reading practice.
- 11) Intensive Reading is practiced in the field of smaller domain of knowledge.
- 12) Readers are encouraged in the analysis & understanding of complex words or ideas.
- 13) Deeper and unexplored issues of the text are made available.
- 14) The linguistic knowledge of the reader is equally enriched through Intensive Reading.
- 15) The mind of the reader is kept engaged in drilling any specific portal of knowledge.
- 16) To achieve the highest level of knowledge in any field, this habit is highly effective.
- 17) It has lasting effect on the vocabulary of the reader.
- 18) The knowledge of grammar is refined & purified through right condition of Intensive Reading.

● Extensive Reading:

Carroll & Carson have provided a complete definition of extensive reading —

Extensive reading is "a rapid reading of large quantities of material or longer reading for general understanding."

Ashoke Gupta has reviewed the meaningful aspects of extensive reading habit —

"By this type of reading he only develops his power of getting essential ideas from a reading matter."

Extensive reading is good for pleasure. A reader can gain reading proficiency in a shorter version of time. Extensive reading on the contrary, involves reading in quantity without bothering to check every unknown word or structure. It is used for developing a taste for reading and making the learner an independent reader. The overall aim of this type of reading is general comprehension and it involves reading of longer texts for a long stretch of time.

⇒ Purpose of Extensive Reading :-

- 1) In extensive reading, reader aims to read as much as possible.
- 2) Through extensive reading habit, reading skill can be improved.
- 3) Extensive reading is done on lengthy area of subject matter.
- 4) Skill development is main goal.
- 5) Reader can feel himself/herself automatically motivated.
- 6) Extensive reading habit can be continued life-long.
- 7) Reader conducts such reading to get general understanding of the matter.
- 8) Specification of subject area is not seen in extensive reading.
- 9) Reader skill development is another goal of extensive reading.

- 10) It habit brings variety in vocabulary knowledge.
- 11) Speaking skill is another ability that the reader has the scope to work.
- 12) In extensive reading, things, which are often outside the syllabus, are studied.
- 13) It practices can impart reading fluency.
- 14) Reader tends to read the books which are entertaining.
- 15) Reader always aims to work on listening skill & reading skill.
- 16) As the reader is habituated to read lengthy text, she/he does not feel the complication of starting a text.
- 17) In extensive reading, reader is driven by the idea of reading as fast as he/she can perform.
- 18) The main purpose of extensive reading is to derive pleasure.
- 19) It habit is seen in the matter of attempting a lengthy text.

• Oral / Loud Reading:

Purpose of arranging Oral Reading:-

- 1) Through oral reading we can examine reading skill of the reader.
- 2) Oral reading affirms the reading habit of the reader.
- 3) We can comprehend the quicker reading skill of the concerned reader.
- 4) Readers are engaged in lengthy pronunciation process.
- 5) We have the scope to examine the intonation of each distinctive reader.
- 6) Reader has the chance to develop reading as an art.
- 7) The use of punctuation marks can be improved.
- 8) Individual distinctiveness can be followed up through proper training in the matter of pronunciation.

• Silent Reading:

Purpose of Arranging Silent Reading:-

1. Readers are trained to ponder on subject on regular basis.
2. Thinking of reader becomes more sharp and ready before he/she expresses the self.
3. Good reading habit needs careful brooding and internal fluency of the reader.
4. When silent reading is performed on regular basis, it contributes in some other way. Reading speed is achieved.
5. Silent reading brings internal fluency of the reader.
6. To polish the reading skill of a reader, silent reading is the best way out.
7. Silent reading practices even can remove the pronunciation related drawbacks & difficulties.
8. When the reader aims to perform spontaneous word selection, silent reading is the best solution.
9. During silent reading thinking and thinking of reader's thinking harmoniously.

carried out.

- 10) Frequent silent reading habit gives reader the clarity of conception.
- 11) Silent reading brings clarity in the reading comprehension of the reader.
- 12) Silent reading allows the reader to read slowly. Thus a subject is more deeply understood and interpreted.