

Proficient readers monitor their comprehension during reading-they know when the text they are reading or listening to makes sense, when it does not, what does not make sense, and whether the unclear portions are critical to overall understanding of the piece.

Proficient readers can identify when text is comprehensible and the degree to which they understand it. They can identify ways in which a text becomes gradually more understandable by reading past an unclear portion and/or by rereading part or all of the text.

Proficient readers are aware of the purpose for their reading and direct special attention to the parts of the text they most need to comprehend for that purpose.

Proficient readers know what they need to comprehend from a text-they are aware of their purpose for reading and what will be required of them with respect to reporting in their reading.

Proficient readers can identify when text is comprehensible and the degree to which they understand it. They can identify ways in which a text becomes gradually more understandable by reading past an unclear portion and/or by rereading part or all of the text.

Proficient readers are able to assume different stances towards a text. For example, a child can read a book from the point of view of different characters or a book reviewer.

Proficient readers identify difficulties they have in comprehending at the word, sentence, and whole text levels. They are flexible in their us eof tactics to revise their thinking and solve different types of problems.

* They solve word & sentence level problems with surface strategies such as decoding strategies and/or word analysis.
* They solve text-level problems by monitoring, evaluating, and making revisions to their evolving interpretation of the text while reading. They then compare the emerging meaning to their background knowledge and make adjustments to incorporate new information into existing memory stores.

Proficient readers can “think aloud” about their reading process. They are aware of and can articulate the surface and deep structure strategies they use to identify words, read fluently, and create solutions to reading problems.

Proficient readers can identify confusing ideas, themes and/or surface elements (words, sentence or text structures, graphs, tables) and suggest a variety of means to solve the problems they encounter.

Proficient readers use text management strategies. They pause, reread, skim, scan, consider the meaning of the text, and reflect on their understand with other readers.

Proficient readers are independent, flexible, and adaptive:

* They show independence by using surface and deep structure strategies to solve reading problems and enhance understanding on their own.
* They demonstrate flexibility by using particular strategy (such as determining importance) to a greater or lesser degree depending on the demands of the text.
* They are adaptive in their ability to “turn up (or down) the volume” on a particular strategy or use all comprehension strategies in concert.