

**STRATEGIES
FOR READING
DIFFICULT
MATERIAL**

1. Read the title and first paragraph: Decide if you have enough background to begin reading. Grasp an idea of how the material is organized. If you need more information, use another resource.

2. Look for main ideas: Look for titles, headings, and subheadings. Take note of topic sentences. Utilize graphs, charts, and diagrams.

3. Look up words: Look up words whose meanings are important to your understanding of the material, but you cannot discern from the text.

4. Monitor your comprehension: Periodically stop and ask yourself “What have I learned?” Connect this to what you already know.

5. Reread: If you are not comprehending an idea, go back and reread. Restate difficult ideas in your own words.

6. Read to the end: Do not get discouraged and stop reading. Ideas can become clearer the more you read. When you finish reading, review to see what you have learned, and reread ideas that are not clear.

7. Write while you read: Underline, take notes, and write summaries to help you concentrate while you read.